

6 Pages of All New **PEN PALS!**

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COMICS
CODE



G.I. Joe

10¢

DECEMBER
NO. 48



"THE DECISION" --- Trapped in an A-Bomb Target!



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SIDEWALK ARTIST



G.I. Joe

in

THE DECISION

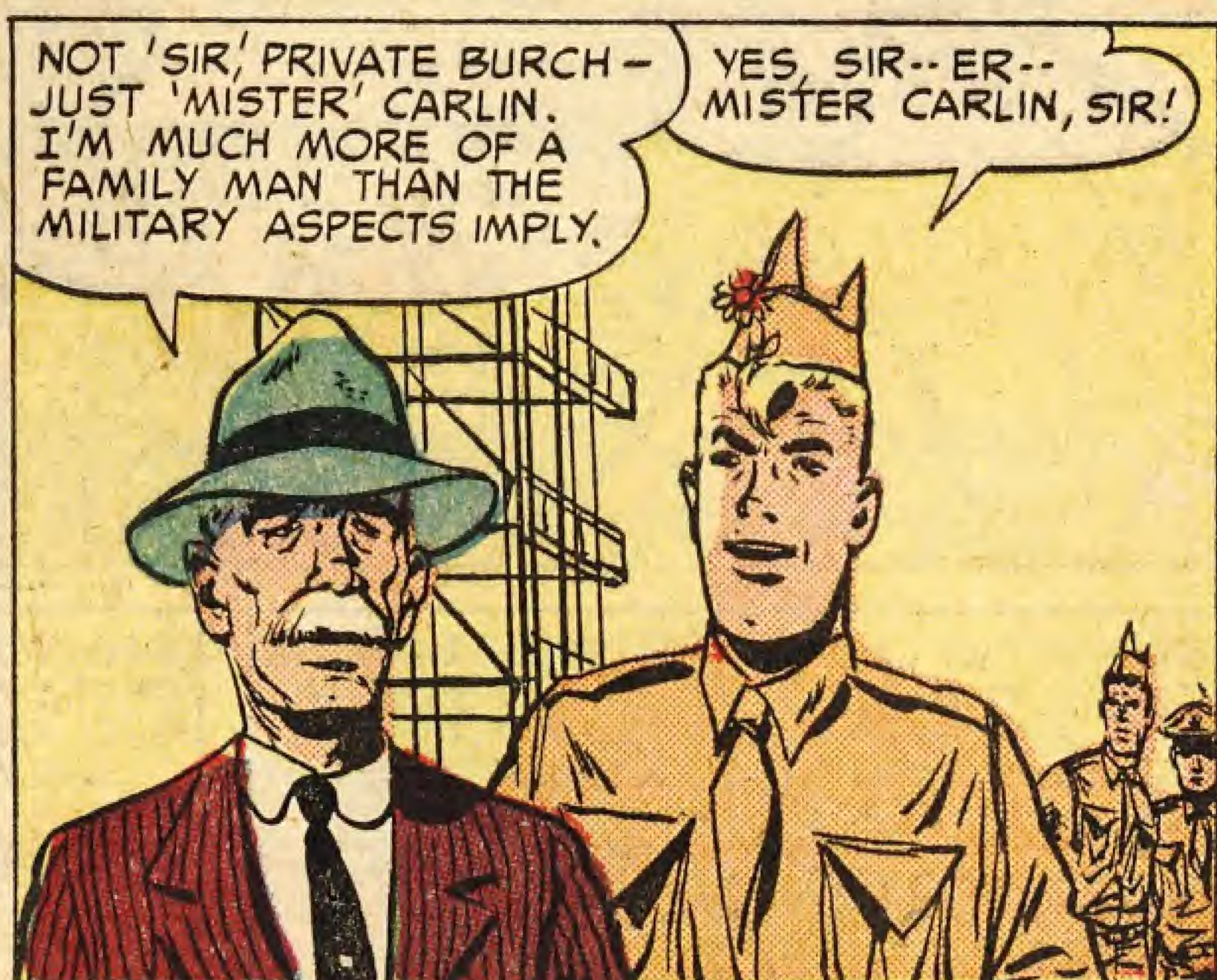
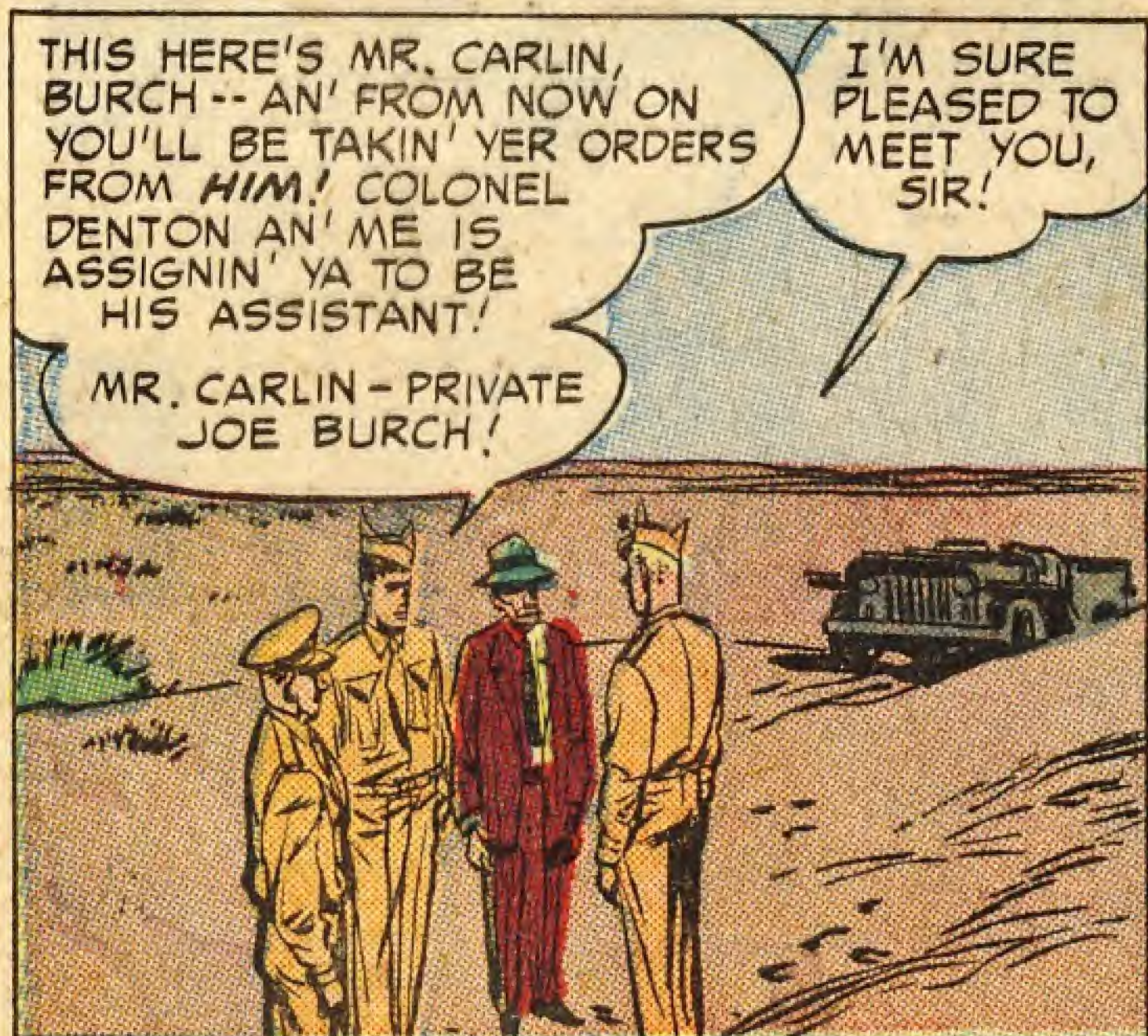
WHEN SERGEANT MULVANEY BROKE THE NEWS TO THE MEN OF WHAT THEIR NEXT ASSIGNMENT WAS TO BE, EXCITEMENT SOARED TO FEVER PITCH! **THIS** WAS SOMETHING THE MEN HAD NEVER SEEN BEFORE... EVEN THOUGH IT WAS LIKE FRONT-PAGE HEADLINES BEING EXPLODED IN THEIR LAPS...



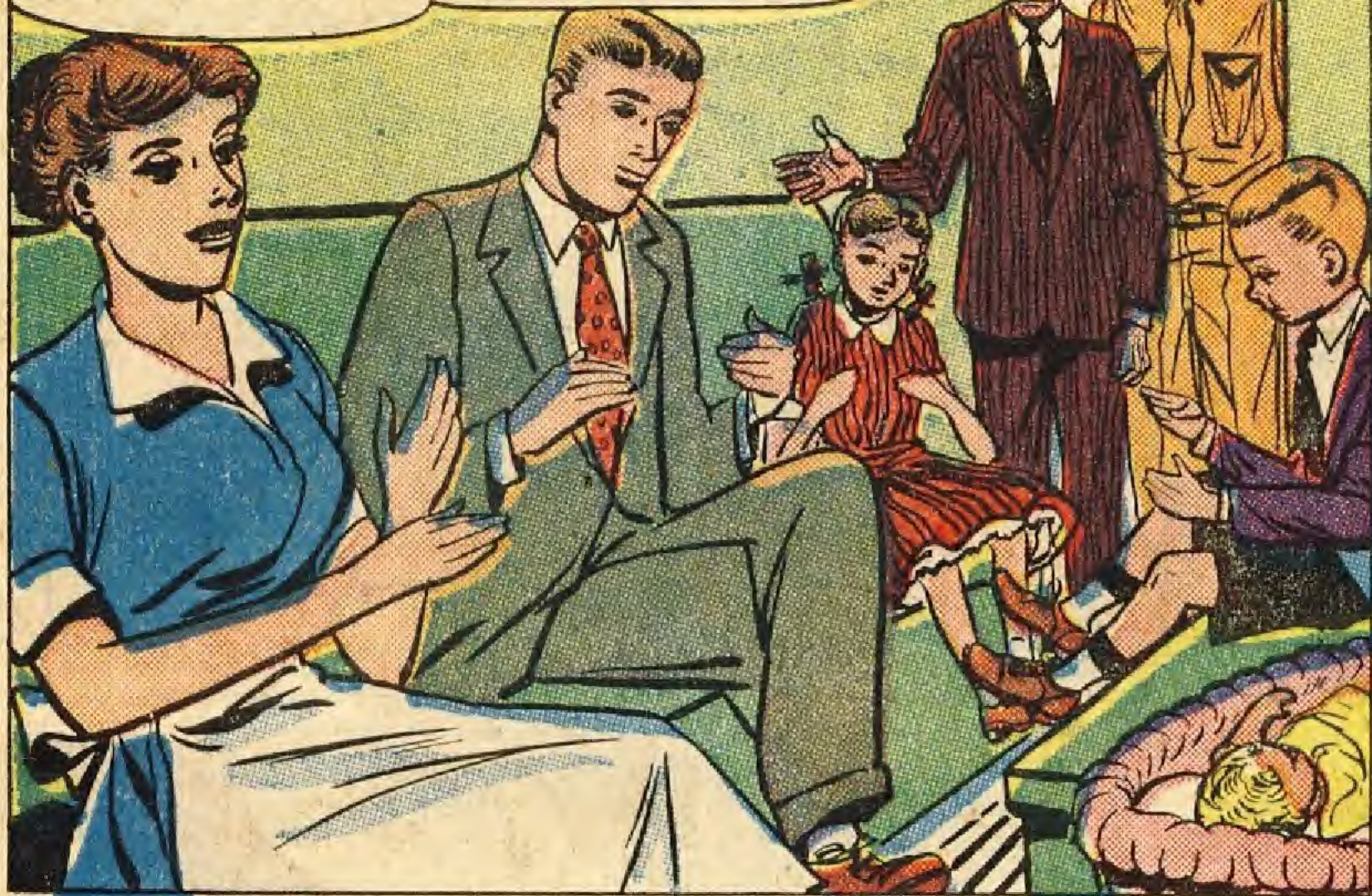
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A FEW DAYS LATER, IN THE NEW MEXICO DESERT...

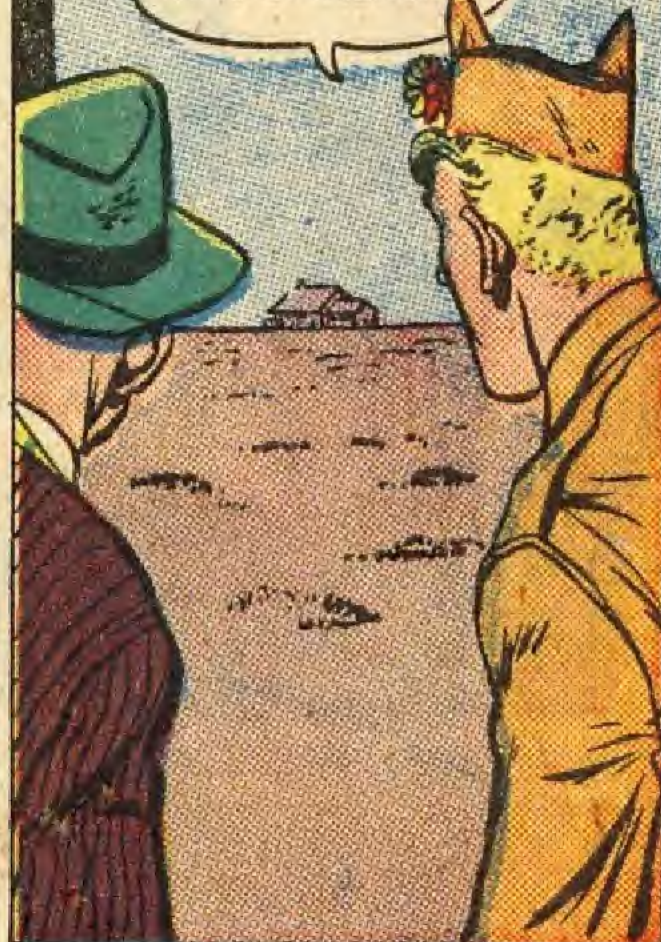


YOU MUST FORGIVE WHAT MAY HAVE SEEMED MY LITTLE JOKE, PRIVATE... BUT AS YOU CAN SEE, MY 'FAMILY' IS QUITE REAL - EVEN THOUGH THEY NEITHER LIVE NOR BREATHE! NOW - WE MUST TALK OVER THE DUTIES TO WHICH YOU'VE BEEN ASSIGNED!

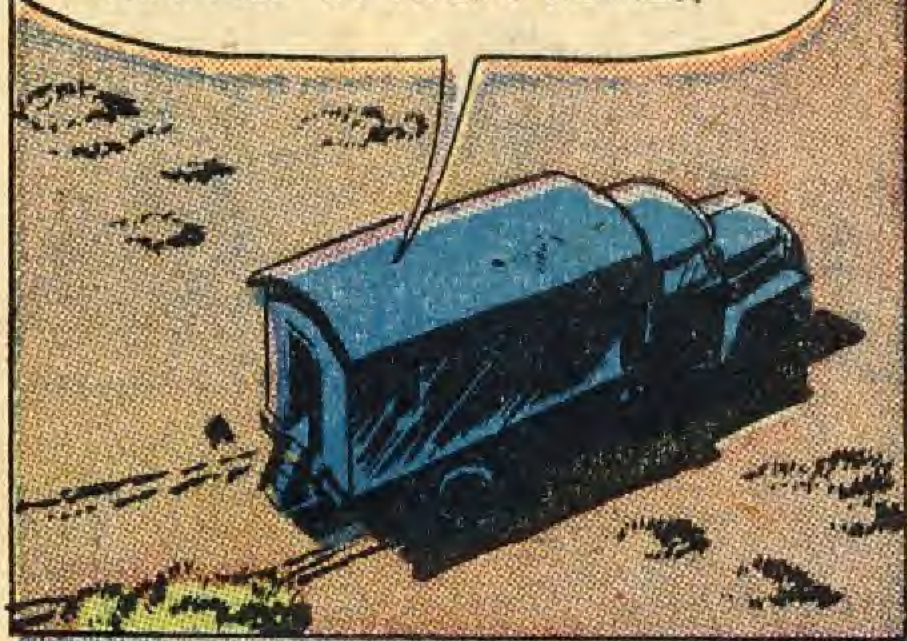


IT'S A DIFFICULT THING FOR ME TO FACE, PRIVATE... BUT DO YOU SEE THAT HOUSE WAY OFF THERE TO THE RIGHT OF THE LAUNCHING PLATFORM?

SURE THING, MR. CARLIN...



WELL-- SADLY-- THAT HOUSE IS TO BE MY 'FAMILY'S' FIRST, LAST AND **ONLY** HOME! THEY ARE TO BE **INSIDE THAT HOUSE** WHEN THE BOMB IS SENT OFF! FROM THEIR SACRIFICE, WE HOPE TO LEARN MUCH OF THE ATOMIC CONCUSSION AS IT WOULD AFFECT THE AVERAGE FAMILY TRAPPED IN **THEIR HOME!!**



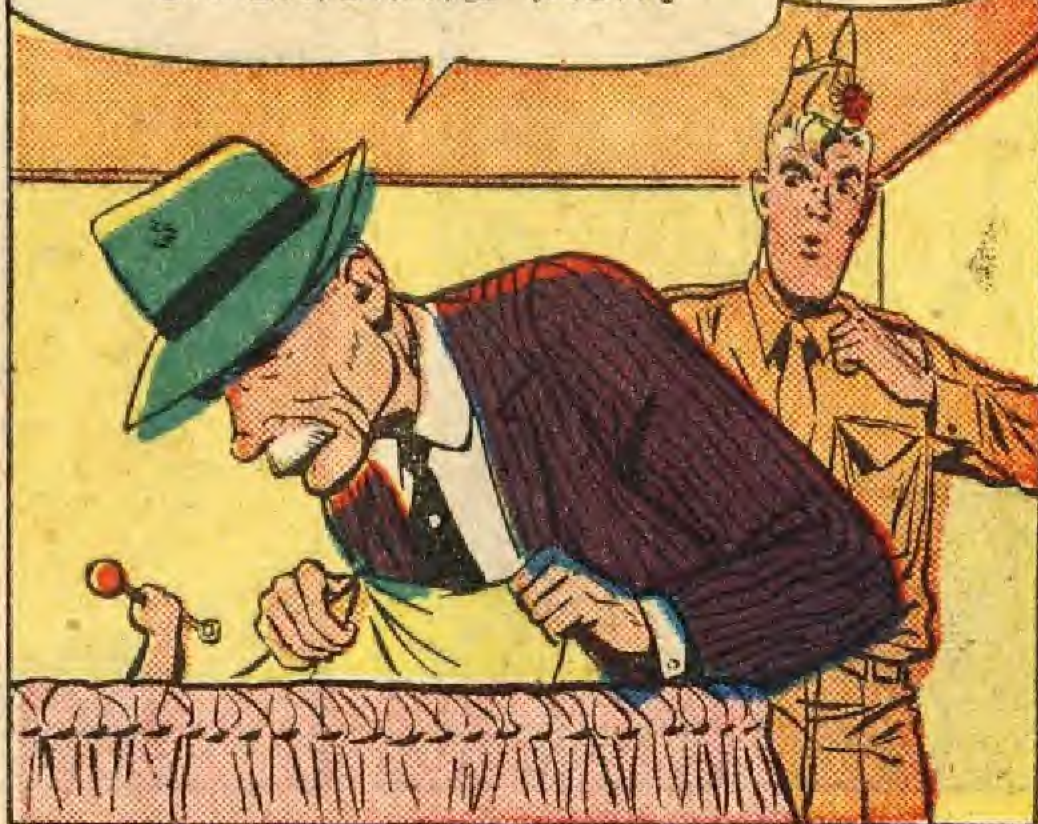
YOU SEE WHY YOUR DUTIES ARE NOT EASY, PRIVATE BURCH! **YOU** HAVE BEEN SELECTED TO HELP ME AND MY FAMILY **MOVE IN!** BY NO MEANS WILL IT BE THE SIMPLE PROCESS OF ARRANGING SOME DEPARTMENT STORE WINDOW --



NO, INDEED! METICULOUS MEASUREMENTS MUST BE TAKEN... WE MUST HAVE THE MOST **ACCURATE** INFORMATION FOR COMPARISON WITH THE AFTER-EFFECTS OF THE BLAST! IT WILL REQUIRE DEFT HANDS, PRIVATE... AND, IN MY CASE, LOVING ONES.



I HAVE LABORED **LONG** TO CREATE LIVES DESTINED FOR SO BRIEF A SPAN! I SHALL NOT BE HAPPY TOMORROW, WHEN THE BOMB IS SENT OFF! BUT-- WHAT MUST BE, MUST BE. ALL RIGHT, PRIVATE... ARE YOU READY TO HELP ME WITH MY UNFORTUNATE TASK?



A LITTLE BEFORE DAWN, THE FOLLOWING DAY...

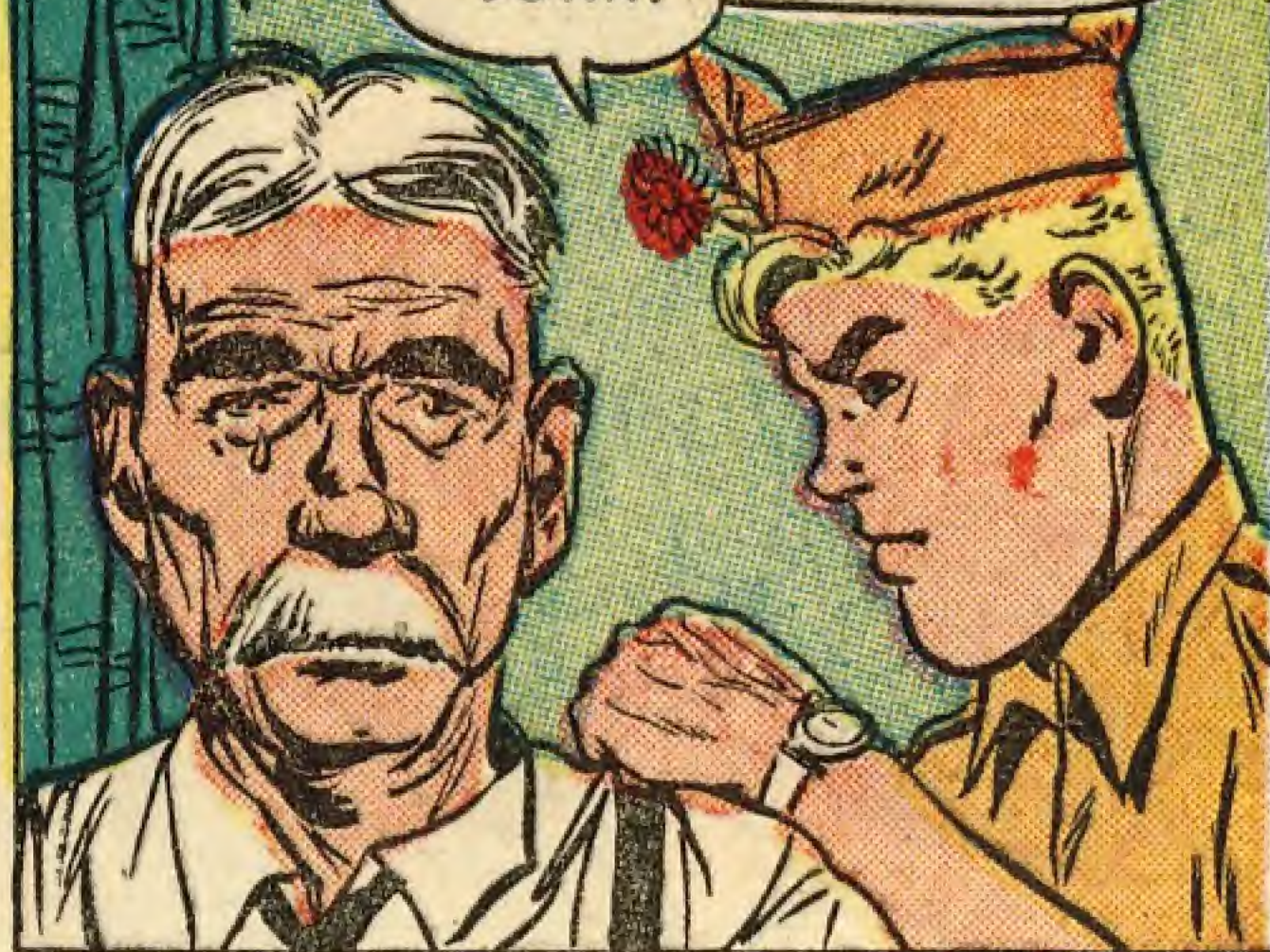


THE LAST NEWSPAPER YOU WILL EVER READ, MY DEAR FRIEND! **TOMORROW'S HEADLINES WILL BE OF YOU!**

LOOKS LIKE THEY'RE FINISHIN' UP RIGHT ON TIME OVER AT THE BOMB-SITE, MR. CARLIN! ARE YOU ABOUT READY TO TAKE OFF?

I HAVE NEVER LIKED LEAVE-TAKING, PRIVATE BURCH. THIS ONE IS PARTICULARLY DIFFICULT FOR ME...

THE LAUNCHING CREW IS PICKING US IN FOUR MINUTES, MR. CARLIN! WE'RE ALL FINISHED HERE! THERE'S ONLY TWENTY-SIX MINUTES LEFT BEFORE THEY START THE COUNT-DOWN!



MEANWHILE, AT THE LAUNCHING PLATFORM...



ALL RIGHT, SERGEANT, THAT COMPLETES EVERYTHING *HERE* EXACTLY ON SCHEDULE! YOU AND I ARE DUE OVER AT THE FIRING PIT! THE CREW IS PICKING UP MR. CARLIN AND PRIVATE BURCH...

RIGHT, SIR!



GET IN THERE, YOU GUYS, AN' HELP 'EM WITH ANY STUFF THEY AIN'T LEAVIN' BEHIND! WE GOT TO BE BACK OF THE FIRIN' PIT BY THE TIME THEY START THE COUNT-DOWN!

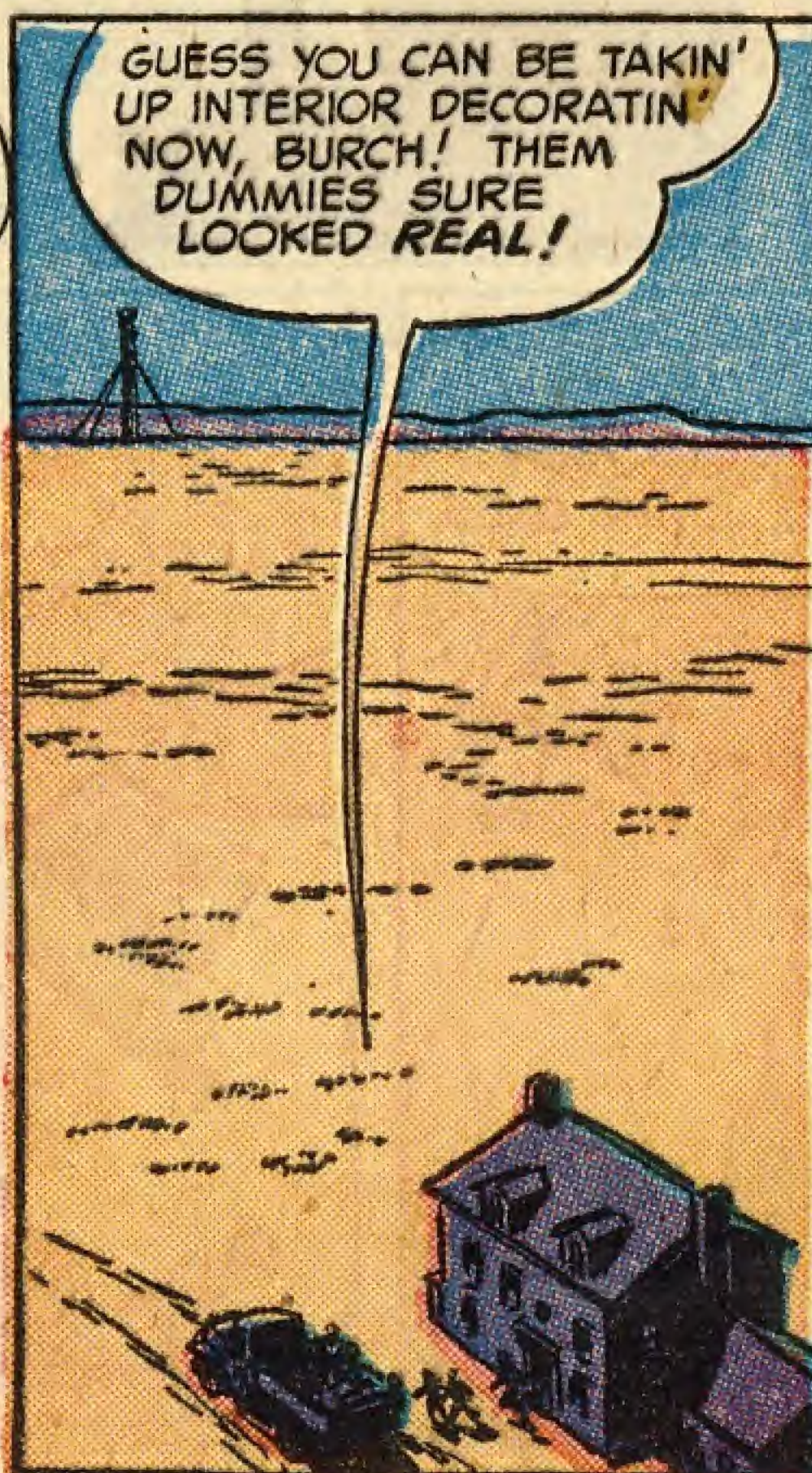
SECONDS LATER...



NO--NO, THERE'S NOTHING THAT ISN'T TO BE LEFT HERE. EVERYTHING IS--ARRANGED.

COME ON, MR. CARLIN -- ONLY TWENTY-TWO MINUTES TO THE COUNT-DOWN!

LET'S GET MOVIN' THEN!



GUESS YOU CAN BE TAKIN' UP INTERIOR DECORATIN' NOW, BURCH! THEM DUMMIES SURE LOOKED REAL!

BUT PRECIOUS MINUTES LATER...



TURN THE TRUCK AROUND! MR. CARLIN'S STILL BACK THERE IN THAT HOUSE!

AT THE FIRING PIT...



THAT'S TIME ENOUGH FOR YOU TO GET MR. CARLIN AND PRIVATE BURCH, SERGEANT! TAKE MY JEEP. THEY HAVE PERMISSION TO BE HERE IN THE PIT WHEN WE FIRE!



BUT OUT ON THE DESERT...



AND AS THE MINUTES TICKED RELENTLESSLY AWAY...



AND THE NEXT SECOND...

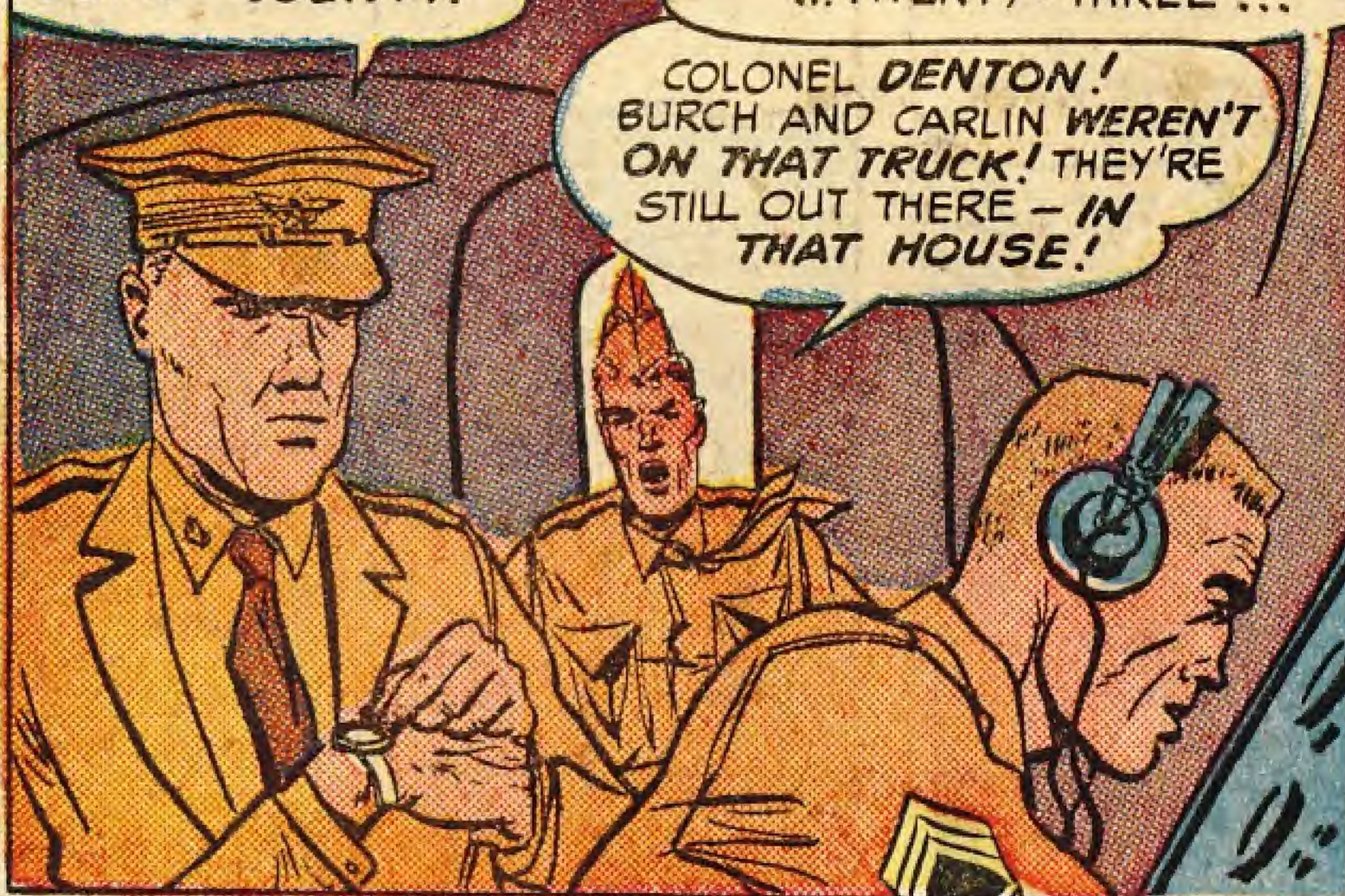


NOT MUCH LATER, AT THE FIRING PIT...

PREPARE FOR COUNT-DOWN -- **COUNT!!**

TWENTY-FIVE... TWENTY-FOUR... TWENTY-THREE...

COLONEL DENTON!
BURCH AND CARLIN WEREN'T
ON THAT TRUCK! THEY'RE
STILL OUT THERE - IN
THAT HOUSE!



AND SERGEANT MULVANEY WAS ONLY **PARTIALLY** WRONG! THEY WEREN'T IN THE DOOMED HOUSE... **BUT THEY WERE STILL OUT THERE!**



"SIXTEEN... FIFTEEN... FOURTEEN..."

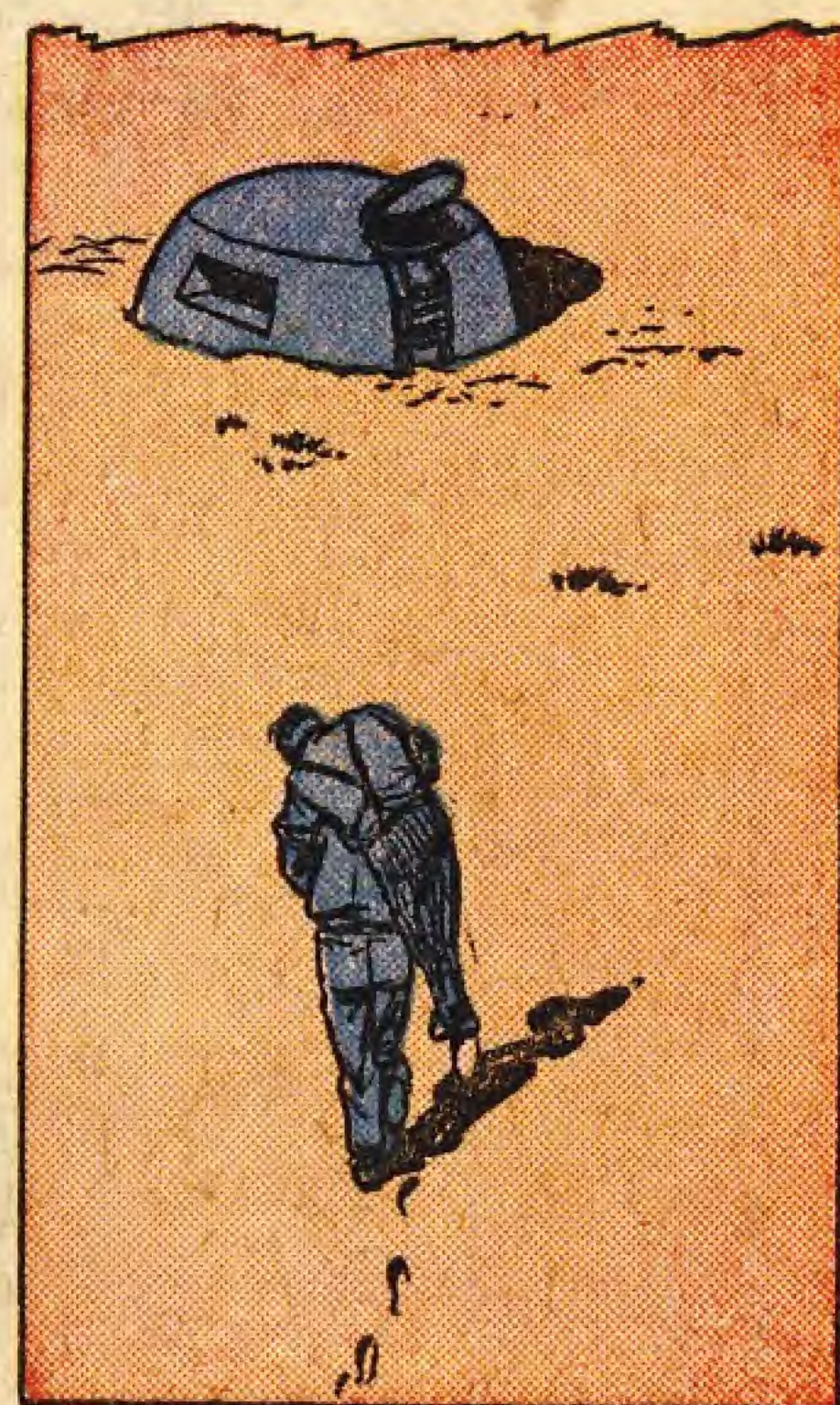
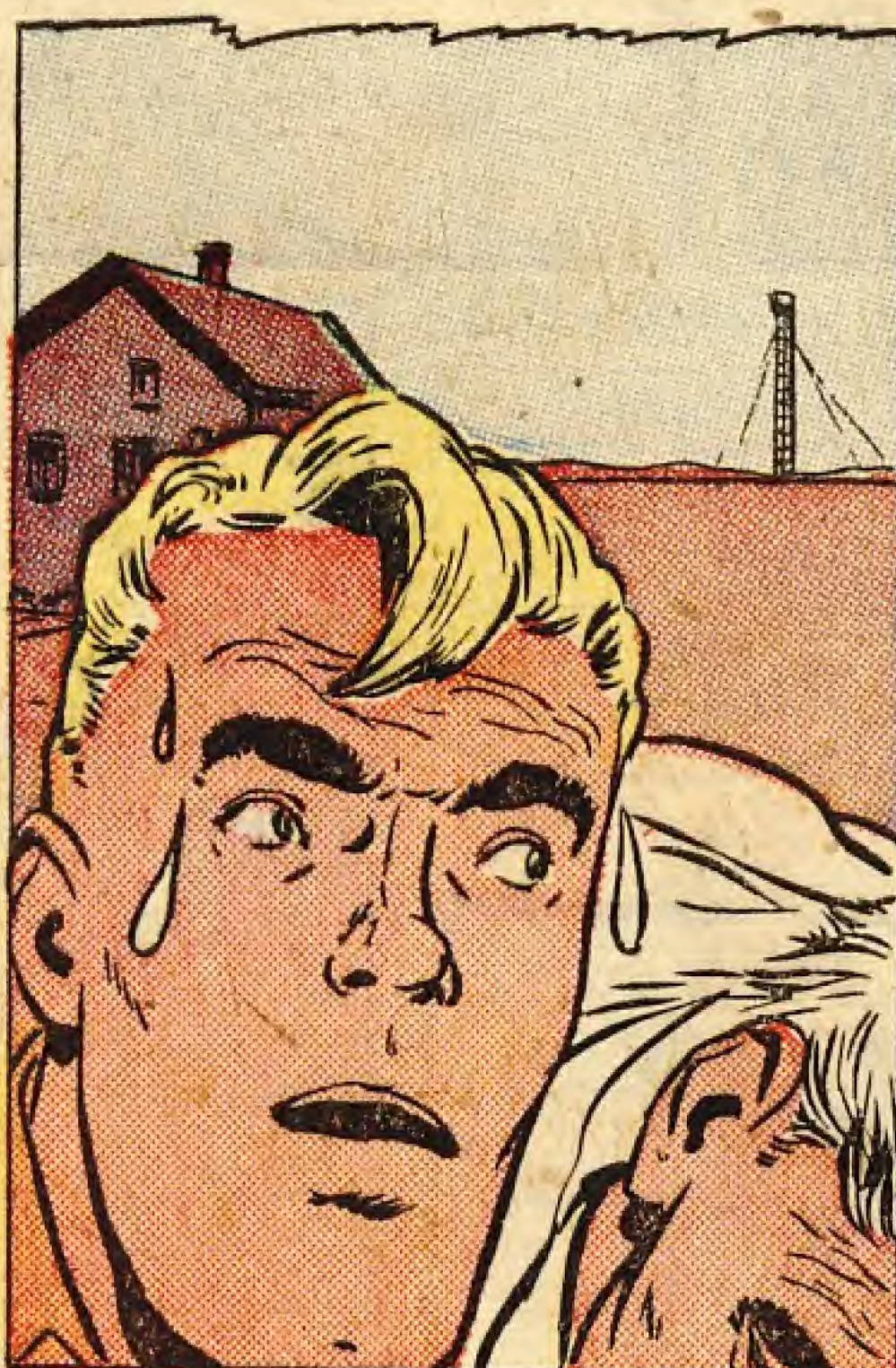
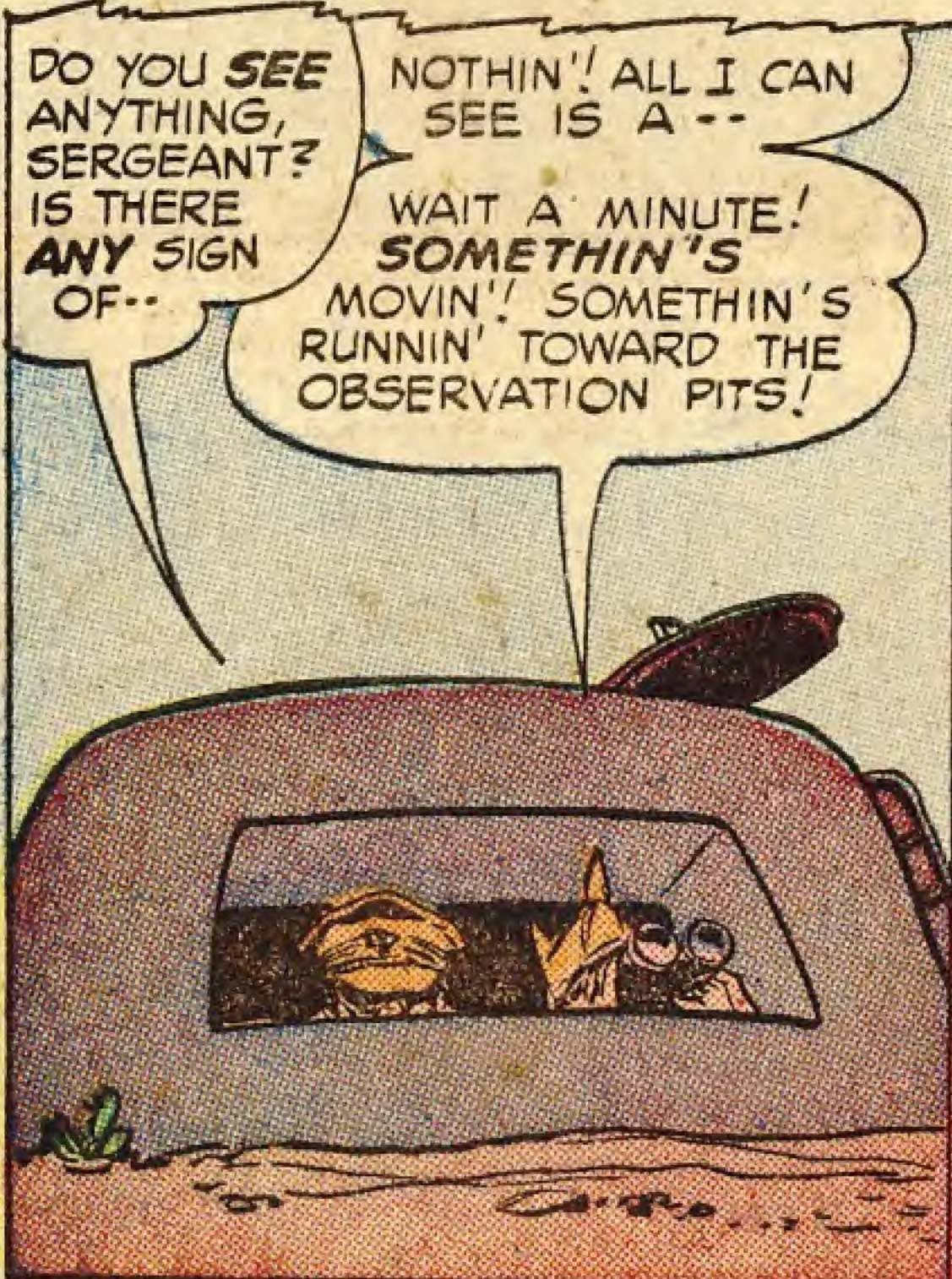
"NINE... EIGHT... SEVEN..."

"FIVE... FOUR..."

DO YOU **SEE** ANYTHING, SERGEANT? IS THERE **ANY** SIGN OF--

NOTHIN'! ALL I CAN SEE IS A --

WAIT A MINUTE! **SOMETHIN'S** MOVIN'! SOMETHIN'S RUNNIN' TOWARD THE OBSERVATION PITS!

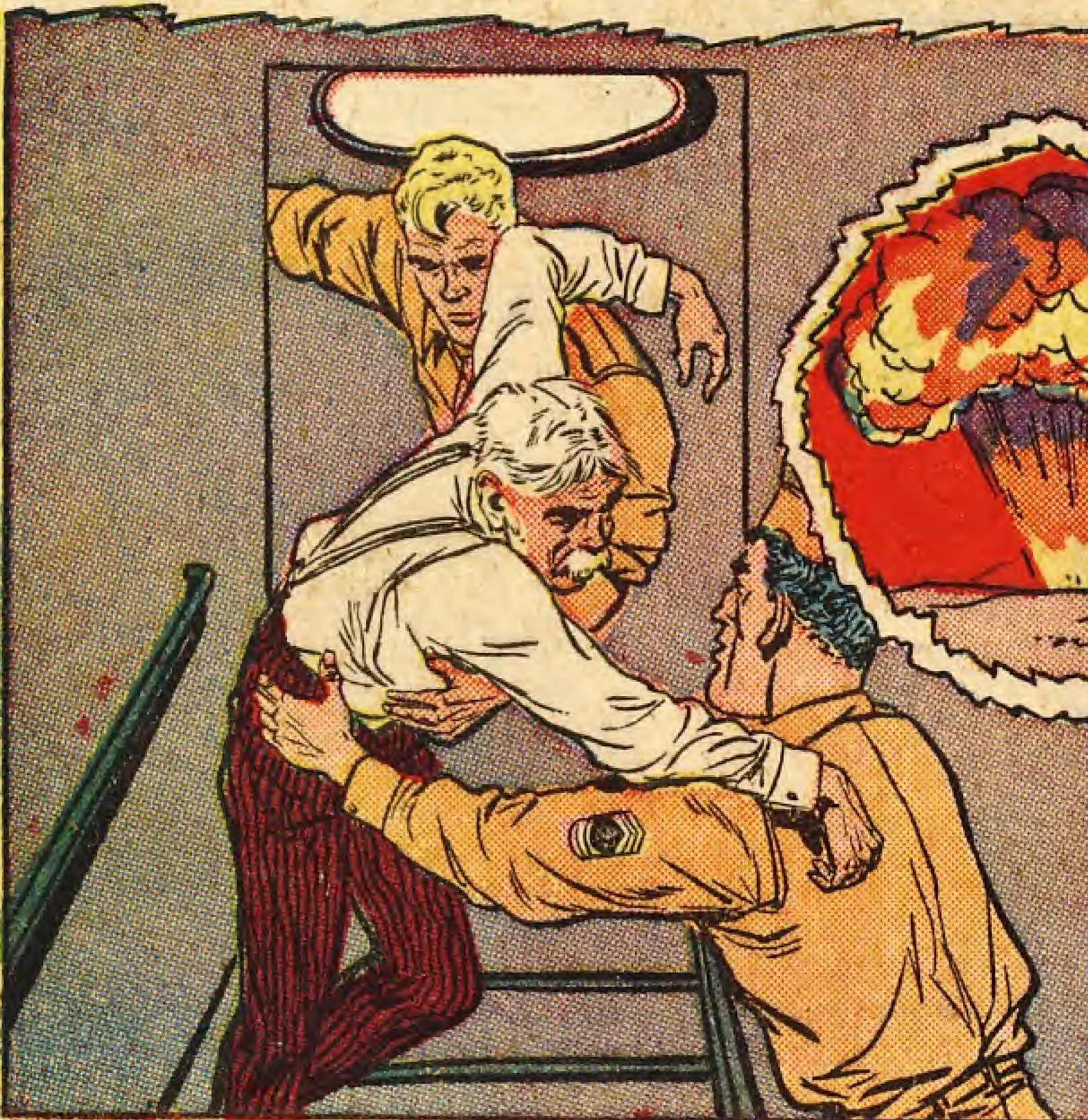


"THREE... TWO... ONE... **FIRE!!**"

AND FRANTIC MINUTES LATER...

WHAT **HAPPENED**, BURCH? WHAT WENT **WRONG**?

A LONELY OLD GUY'S MIND, SARGE - BUT I THINK WE'RE GONNA BE OKAY...



THE END



BUICK



CADILLAC



CHEVROLET



CHRYSLER



CONTINENTAL



DE SOTO



DODGE



FORD



HUDSON



LINCOLN



MERCURY



NASH



OLDSMOBILE



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PRACTICE 10 DAYS . . . FREE

No guess work! No lost time! Just look up the make, model and part you want to fix. Trouble-shooting charts help you locate what's wrong. Then every step of making needed repairs or adjustments is explained in a way you're sure to understand. "Minor" details, often so puzzling to beginners, are made crystal clear.

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G.I. JOE'S PEN PALS

Readers of G. I. JOE are invited to use this popular department to exchange correspondence between interested servicemen, wherever they may be, and civilians, who wish to brighten the lives of the men in our country's service.

As a necessary step before publication, all civilian correspondents listed on our pages have been cleared by their local authorities, who have attested to their character and loyalty to country. Persons receiving correspondence from these readers can rest assured that these people represent the finest citizens in their respective communities.

EAST

TONY DI SISTO, 14 EASTON AVE., WATERBURY, CONN. . . . "Please include my name in your **PEN PALS** pages. I think it's a wonderful feature, and has surely made many people happy. I am 25 years old, and will answer all letters that I may receive."

LEONA HELMICK, KIRKWOOD ROUTE No. 71, KIRKWOOD, DEL. . . . "I am 18 years old, have black hair, brown eyes and I stand 5 feet 3 inches tall. I like most sports and specially like to correspond with lots of pen pals. I am looking forward to hearing from many of your readers."

ALETHEA ROWE, BOX 157, CHISHOLM, MAINE . . . "I am 17 years old, brown hair, hazel eyes, like popular music and dancing. Will write to whoever cares to write to me."

IRENE LANSELL, DAMARISCOTTA, MAINE . . . "I've always liked to write letters, but have never had the opportunity since I know very few people. That's why I would like to have my name listed in your magazine. I am 17 years old, red hair, brown eyes, love dancing and all kinds of sports. I am 5 feet 4 inches tall. Will answer all letters."

JOYCE BUNKER, EAST SULLIVAN, MAINE . . . "I am 16 years old and would like to correspond with readers of your wonderful magazine. I play the saxophone and sing in the chorus. Would like to write to servicemen and civilians. Please write."

THELMA BRYANT, 23 SEARLES ST., LIVERMORE FALLS, MAINE . . . "I have just finished writing to servicemen listed in your publication and it occurred to me to have my name listed also. I am 19 years old, have brown hair, brown eyes. Love swimming and roller skating."

BEVERLY HOWARD, TEMPLE, MAINE . . . "I am 16 years old, blonde hair, blue eyes, stand 5 feet 2 inches tall. Will answer all letters."

LYNN HUNT, BOX 149, BILLERICA, MASS. . . . "I think you're doing a wonderful thing for our servicemen and I would like to take part in it. I am 16 years of age, have short dark brown hair and am 5'5½" tall. I would like to write to servicemen between the ages of 17 and 19 in the U.S.A. I hope to see my name in your column soon."

JACQUELINE BONCZAR, 71 BOSTON RD., N. BILLERICA, MASS. . . . "I am 18 years old, am 5'8" tall, have blonde hair and blue eyes. I enjoy football, baseball, dancing and all pop music. I love animals and enjoy the outdoors."

PATRICIA REBINSKAS, 9 CHADWICK ST., NORTH BILLERICA, MASS. . . . "I am 16 years old, 5'6" tall, I have brown hair and brown eyes. Sports, dancing and collecting R & R records are my hobbies. I promise to answer all letters as soon as possible."

JOAN FENCHOCK, 148 PULASKI ST., DUNELLEN, N. J. . . . "I am 5'2", brown hair, blue eyes and very pretty. I am 19 years old. I'd like to write to any servicemen between the ages of 18 and 23. I will answer all letters I receive. Could you please help me to get pen pals. I love to write."

JOHN BOLLES, 452 MALLORY AVE., JERSEY CITY 6, N. J. . . . "I have been a steady reader of your magazine and have written many of your pen pals, and would like my paragraph in G.I. Joe. I am 5'11" tall, brown wavy hair and brown eyes, weight 170 pounds. I am 19 years old. I work in a factory and weight lift on the side. I will answer each and every letter I receive and will also exchange snapshots."

PEGGY LYDEN, 149 NEPTUNE AVE., JERSEY CITY, N. J. . . . "I am 17 years old,

have long curly brown hair, brown eyes. I am 4'11" tall, weight 108. My interests are general. Love be-bop and hillbilly music. Like horses and motorcycles.

RUTH REICH, 80 HAWLEY ST., BINGHAMTON, N. Y. . . . "I am 21 years of age, 5'2", brown hair and eyes. I am interested in corresponding with servicemen in all branches of the service. I promise to answer every letter that I receive."

DOROTHY SCARLATO, BOX 708, BRIDGEHAMPTON, L. I., N. Y. . . . "I am 17 years old, blonde hair and brown eyes. I would like to receive mail from anyone who would like to write."

ADELE DI BENEDETTO, 113 W. 9th ST., BROOKLYN 31, N. Y. . . . "I am 20 years old, 5'1" tall. I have dark brown hair and brown eyes. I love all sports, best of all I love baseball. I hope the servicemen will write. I will answer all mail."

HAZEL GAINES, 20 EMERSON PL., BUFFALO 9, N. Y. . . . "I am 19 years old, with black hair, brown eyes, and I am 4'11½" tall. I like dancing, rhythm and blues, jazz, some sports and writing letters. Will answer all letters."

MARIA GIOKAS, 12 PARK PL., LAKE PLACID, N. Y. . . . "I was born in Europe and have lived in the U.S. for 9 years. I am 18 years old and have dark brown eyes and black curly hair. I am known as 'Lucky' to all my friends. I love all sports and collect many things. I play several instruments and have a big collection of records. I love to travel, go camping and climb mountains, but best of all I love to correspond with boys and girls from all over."

ANNE HUDSON, 408 2ND AVE., NEW YORK 10, N. Y. . . . "I am 17½ years old and would like to write to some nice servicemen. I have long brown hair and blue eyes. I stand 5'3" and weigh 102 pounds. My hobbies are photography and sports of all kinds. I will answer all letters."

ROSE KAPLAN, 65 E. 97TH ST., NEW YORK, N. Y. . . . "I would like to write to lonely servicemen everywhere. I am sixteen years old, 5'2" tall, brown hair and brown eyes. I will try to answer all letters I receive, as soon as possible, and will send pictures to those who want them."

LOUIS MARCANTONIO, 1127 HAEERLE AVE., NIAGARA FALLS, N. Y. . . . "I am 25 years old, stand 5'6" with brown hair and brown eyes. My hobbies consist of music, dancing, traveling, reading, writing, meeting people, having fun and living in general. I'd like to hear from any girls who want to write

me, including you service girls. I'll answer all letters, and exchange photos."

CONNIE BERTRON, PORTAGE ST., NUNDA, N. Y. . . . "I am 16 years old. I have brown hair and brown eyes. I am 5'4". I will be expecting some mail soon."

NANCY LITTS, 33 MAPLE AVE., PULASKI, N. Y. . . . "I am 16 years old, 5'3" tall, brown hair, and brown eyes. I will answer each and every letter that I receive."

GERRY COSTER, 9572-115 ST., RICHMOND HILL, N. Y. . . . "I am 20 years old, 5'5" tall and I love to write and will certainly answer all letters I hope I will receive. I enjoy practically all sports, and dancing. So I would enjoy receiving mail from any state."

JUDY STRAIT, 22 WEST ST., ADREAN TERRACE, UTICA, N. Y. . . . "I am 18, 5'10". I weigh 95 pounds. I have dark brown eyes and reddish brown hair. I like all sports, music and movies. I would like to write to servicemen between 18 and 25. I would also like to hear from people everywhere. I promise to answer all letters received."

ELEANORE APPLETON, 833 S. FRONT ST., ALLENTOWN, PA. . . . "I am 16, 5'6" tall. I have blue eyes and light brown hair. I love all kinds of sports, writing letters and the Civil Air Patrol has me interested in Aviation. I would appreciate correspondence from servicemen and women. I promise to answer promptly."

MILDRED ROBERTS, 524 W. 11TH ST., ERIE, PA. . . . "I am 16 years old with light brown skin, brown hair and eyes, stand 5'5", weigh 127. I would like to receive letters from young men of both races between 16 and 18. All letters will be answered and I will exchange pictures."

IDA MAY RUSSELL, 1119 CASCADE ST., ERIE, PA. . . . "I am 18 years old, long brown hair, brown eyes and 5' tall. I would like to correspond with servicemen between 18 and 23. I like to dance, especially square dance. I love baseball and basketball, also swimming."

VICKIE GAGE, 35 S. WYOMISSING AVE., SHILLINGTON, READING, PA. . . . "I am 29 years old and love to write letters. I will answer all letters."

MARY AGNES WEGRZYN, BOX 201, HANNASTOWN, PA. . . . "I would like to have my name in your **PEN PALS** section. I am 23 years old and would like to correspond with servicemen."

FRED BONES, SCH. CO., BRANDON ST., SHEPPTON, PA. . . . "I would like all girls from the east to write to me. I am 25 years old, 5'3", brown hair and brown eyes, 125 pounds. I like the outdoors very much."

PARTICIA A. PEACH, R.F.D. 3, ESMOND BRANCH, PROVIDENCE 17, R. I. . . . "I am 18 years old, 5'2" tall, reddish-brown hair, blue eyes. Enjoy art, good music, swimming and dancing. Will answer all letters promptly."

VIRGINIA LYNN GARNER, CENTRAL STATION, W. VA. . . . "I am 16 years old, 5'3" tall, blonde hair and blue eyes. I love to write letters and will answer all letters I receive. I will also exchange snapshots."

PAULA CLAYPOOLE, RT. 3, BOX 270B, CLARKSBURG, W. VA. . . . "I am 17 years old, blue eyes and brownette hair. I would like to hear from servicemen all over the world."

JEANIE KINGERY, HEWETT, W. VA. . . . "I am 16 years old, 5'7" tall and weigh 130 pounds. I have green eyes and light brown hair. I do hope some G.I. will write."

BEATRICE HIXEN, BOX 323, SHINNSTON, W. V. . . . "I am 25 years old, light brown hair, hazel eyes, 5'5". I like all kinds of





music and sports. I would like to correspond with servicemen and other men, too. Drop me a line. I sincerely promise to answer all letters I receive."

SOUTH

PATSY ANN DOSS, 1117 AVE. J, BESSEMER, ALA. . . . "I am 18 years old, have blonde hair, blue-green eyes, 5'8" tall, weigh 133 pounds. I love football, dancing and records of popular and bop music. Will try my best to answer all mail I receive. I will exchange pictures also."

CHARLES LEE BUSHART, 4408 W. 27TH ST., LITTLE ROCK, ARK. . . . "I would like to hear from some servicewomen and civilian girls all over the world. I promise to answer all letters. I am 23 years old, 6' tall, black hair and brown eyes. I'm an ex-Marine." **BARBIE CASON**, 306 E. 3RD ST., MALVERN, ARK. . . . "I am 17, red hair, blue-gray eyes, 5'5" tall, weigh 115 pounds. I love hillbilly and popular music. I will answer all letters and be happy to exchange photos. I would like to correspond with guys and gals in the armed forces also girls in other countries." **BETTY LOU OWEN**, MANETTE, ARK. . . . "I am 20 years old, curly dark brown hair and brown eyes. I enjoy writing letters and promise to answer all I receive hoping to hear from lots of pals real soon."

GENEVIEVE KING, BOX 1304, DE LAND, FLA. . . . "I am a Negro girl, 16 years old. I like all outdoor sports and would like to hear from the boys overseas and in the states, too. I will answer all letters so write soon."

DON CAYSON, 1608 N. Y. ST., PENSACOLA, FLA. . . . I am 25, 5'7", green eyes and blonde hair. Like most sports and music. My interests are photography and church. I'll answer every letter I receive and will exchange photos."

VIRGINIA VANN, GEN. DEL., GLENWOOD, GA. . . . "I am 16 years old, 5'4" tall, have blonde hair and gray eyes. I would like to correspond with men in all parts of the service. My hobby is writing letters. I promise to answer all letters."

BETTY STROUP, RT. 4, JEFFERSONVILLE RD., MACON, GA. . . . "I am 17 years old, 5'1½" tall, weigh 107 pounds, have black hair, and brown eyes. I like all kinds of music, sports and food. For hobbies I collect postcards, records, pictures of my friends and most everything else. I will answer every letter I receive."

MILDRED WILSON, 114 BLOOMSBURY AVE., MIDDLESBORO, KY. . . . "I am 18 years old, 5'9" tall and I have large brown eyes and almost black hair. I would like to write to some young men between 19 and 24 years of age. It wouldn't matter what branch of service they are in. I promise to answer all letters I receive."

PALESTENE DIKES, HARLAN COUNTY, TWAYS, KY. . . . "I am 25 years old, have brown eyes with black hair, 5'7" tall. I like hillbilly music and sports. I would like to hear from GI's between 26 and 29. I will try to answer all letters I receive."

BILL HOVIS, 324 BALDWIN AVE., CHARLOTTE, N. C. . . . "I am 26 years of age, have dark brown hair and eyes. My hobbies are music and sports. Am hoping I will hear from many of you readers and servicemen and women."

CHUCK ROGERS, GEN. DEL., ROCKY MOUNT, N. C. . . . "I am 6'1" tall, weigh 162 and have blue eyes and brown hair, am 23 years old. Enjoy all sports and play pro-football in Canada. I am an artist. Will answer all letters that I receive and I will be glad to exchange snapshots."

PAUL PRUITT, RT. 1, BOX 199, TRAPHILL, N. C. . . . "I would like to receive letters from boys and girls everywhere. Just completed a business course and now have plenty of time to write. I will answer every letter that I receive."

PAULETTE HANEY, c/o JESSIE WELCH, E. MARSHALL ST., WAYNESVILLE, N. C. . . . "I am 16 years old, long black hair, dark blue eyes. I am 5'7" tall, weigh 120 pounds. I would like to join your club and I will answer all letters as soon as I can."

EVELYN L. GIBSON, RT. 2, KERSHAW, S. C. . . . "I am 21 years old, have brown hair, blue eyes, 5'3" tall. I would like to help bring home closer to all the men and women in the armed forces. I will answer all letters and will exchange snapshots."

EARL KIRKLAND, 4126 EDINGTON RD., RT. 3, KNOXVILLE, TENN. . . . "I am 17 years old, brown eyes and dark hair, 5'5" tall and like letter writing. I'd like to hear from some nice 16 and 17 year old girls. I will answer all letters and will exchange snapshots."

MARY ANN CABE, RT. 5, LENOIR CITY, TENN. . . . "I am 26 years old, a widow with a 5 month old girl. Would like to hear from GI's from 26 to 45. Will answer all letters I receive."

WILDA NELLE GREENE, RT. 2, LORETTO, TENN. . . . "I am 17 years old, 5'4" tall, I have brown eyes and hair. I am interested in sports, music, dancing, art and writing. Will answer all letters with speed."

JOYCE TATE, ONLY, TENN. . . . "I am 19, have blonde hair, blue eyes, 5'5" tall. I have several hobbies. I would like to write to some servicemen who do not get much mail. I will answer all letters I receive."

STELLMA NEEDHAM, POWDER SPRINGS, TENN. . . . "I am 17 years old, 5'3" tall. I have red hair and brown eyes. My hobbies are hillbilly music, traveling and writing letters to servicemen or anyone that would care to write to me."

BOROTHY HAWKINS, RT. 4, SMITHVILLE,



service."

REGENA THACKER, 103 W. MAIN ST., MITCHELL, IND. . . . "I have dark red hair and brown eyes. I am 18 years old, 5'3" tall and weigh 104 pounds. I will answer all letters I receive."

PEGGY SCHERER, 324 S. JEFFERSON, PENDLETON, IND. . . . I am 5'7½" tall. I have blonde hair and blue eyes and a fair complexion. I am 18 years old. I enjoy all sports, music, movies, walking and, of course, writing. I will answer all letters from all parts of the service regardless of where you are stationed."

CAROLYN BEARLEY, BOX 267, SCHERERVILLE, IND. . . . "I am 17 years old, 5'7", brown eyes and hair. I like sports, dancing, popular music. I think your club is a very good idea."

GERRY BEARLEY, BOX 267, SCHERVILLE, IND. . . . "I'm 5'3" tall, light brown hair and brown eyes. I am 16 years old. I like sports, dancing and music, popular preferred."

MARGE MOHAN, 3438 CURTIS DR., SOUTH BEND, IND. . . . "I am 5' tall, black hair, hazel eyes and I am 16 years of age. I like all sports especially swimming, roller skating and horse back riding. So come on, guys! Let's get those letters rollin'."

ANNA HAIKAN, 2657 W. NORTH AVE., CHICAGO, ILL. . . . "I have brown hair, blue eyes, I am 5'. I love to cook, dance, watch sports, picnics, parties, movies, comics, T.V., music of all kinds. I wish to correspond with boys and girls and men in the service from 18 to 20."

CHRISTINE PIETROS, 3006 W. 41 PLACE, CHICAGO 32, ILL. . . . "I am 17 years old. My nickname is Tina or Chris. I have light blue eyes and light brown hair and I'm 5'2" tall. I enjoy dancing, movies and all sports especially swimming. Any mail I receive will be immediately answered."

CHRISTINE SHARP, BOX 43, ELCO, ILL. . . . "I'm 16 years old, 5'2" tall, have brown hair and brown eyes. I like dancing, hillbilly music. I would like to correspond with someone in the Armed Forces. I will try to answer all letters."

ROSIE CHITTUM, FINDLAY, ILL. . . . "I am 16 years old. I would like to write and receive letters from servicemen everywhere."

SHIRLEY J. REIDER, FINDLAY, ILL. . . . "I am 16 years old. I would like to hear from servicemen everywhere. I will try to answer all letters."

LA DONNA POSTON, BOX 25, KENNEY, ILL. . . . "I am 16 years old, 5'3" tall, black hair, brown eyes and I would like to correspond with servicemen from all over the country. I like sports of all kinds and popular music. Hope to hear from some servicemen real soon. I will answer promptly."

MARLENE STROSAHL, 1915 15TH ST., MOLINE, ILL. . . . "I am 16 years old. I would like to write to any boy that would care to write. I promise to answer all letters promptly."

DON POE BASSETT, IOWA . . . "I would like to write to some GI's in foreign countries. I'm 5'10" tall. I am 16 years old. I have many hobbies, one is writing to GI's. Each and every letter I receive I will answer promptly."



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TENN. . . . "I am 16 and I like rock and roll music, dancing and outdoor sports. I am 5'4" tall, weigh 115 pounds, brown hair and brown eyes. I will answer all letters and will also exchange photos."

SOUTHWEST

MARGARET JANE BALES, RT. 2, COLEMAN, TEXAS . . . "I am 16 years old, brown hair, blue eyes, and I am 5'6" tall. I enjoy swimming, horse back riding and other sports. My favorite hobby is letter writing. I will answer as many letters as I can."

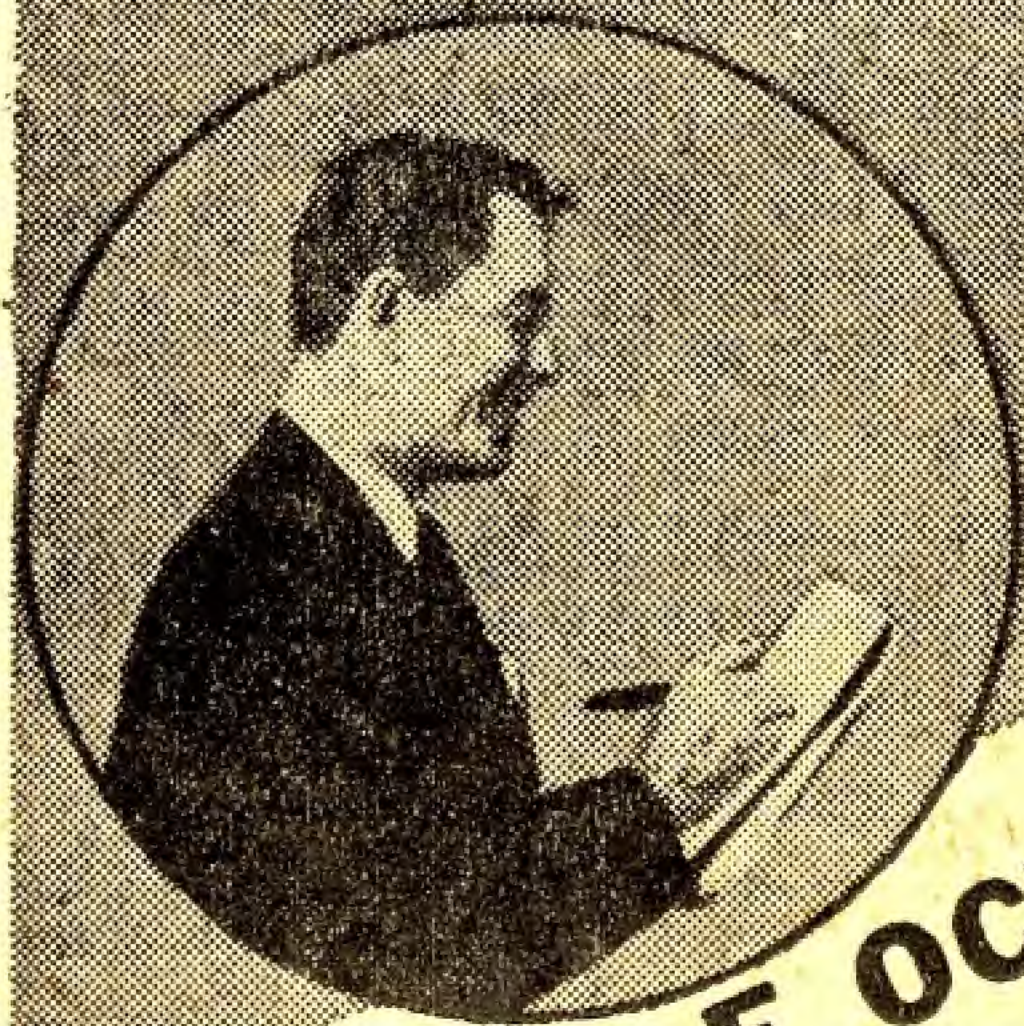
ANDRIA LANIER, 1107 THOMPSON AVE., HUNTSVILLE, TEXAS . . . "I am in my teens, 5'5". I have brown eyes and hair. My nickname is 'Tex'. I would like to be a pen pal to somebody."

MIDWEST

JANICE MENNEWISCH, 2029 NUTTMAN, FT. WAYNE, IND. . . . "I am 16 years old and would enjoy writing to some servicemen. I am 5'4" tall, long light brown hair and dark brown eyes. I like all sports. My favorites are skating and swimming. I also like music."

PEGGY DAY, BOX 258, KENNARD, IND. . . . "I am 16, 5'5" tall. I have brown hair and blue eyes. I have many hobbies and I enjoy most sports especially softball. I would especially like to write to men and women in the

Pen Pals



**ON SALE OCTOBER 11
AT ALL NEWSSTANDS**



BE SURE TO READ NEW PEN PALS MAGAZINE!

RONALD CONRAD, 550½ 11TH AVE., SOUTH, CLINTON, IOWA . . . "I am 16 years old and I would like to write other teen-agers all over the world. Writing to pen pals is my hobby. I will answer every letter I receive."

NORMA JEAN GRAY, 1115 AVE. F., COUNCIL BLUFFS, IOWA . . . "I have read G.I. JOE many times and I would like to write and receive letters from boys in the service. I am 16, with brown hair, blue eyes and I am 5'6½" tall. I'll be looking forward to hearing from lots of you guys."

DELLA LA WAY, 213 N. BENTON ST., CHEBOYGAN, MICH. . . . "I have brown hair and stand 5'4". I like all sports and good hillbilly music and also rock 'n' roll music. So, come on, you guys—I will answer all letters as soon as possible."

NANCY LA WAY, 213 BENTON ST., CHEBOYGAN, MICH. . . . "I have auburn hair, brown eyes. I am 5'1" tall. I like sports, hillbilly and rock and roll music. I enjoy writing letters."

PHYLLIS BEAULIEU, 6563 GARLAND, DETROIT, MICH. . . . "I am 18 years old, 5'2" tall. Will answer as soon as possible."

JOYCE GIBSON, 6208 WIDMAN, DETROIT 11, MICH. . . . "I am 16 years old, 5'3" tall, light brown hair, blue eyes and would like to correspond with servicemen no matter where they may be."

SUSAN KAMINSKI, 9030 PULASKI ST., DETROIT 17, MICH. . . . "I am 16 years old with blonde hair and brown eyes. I am 5'5" tall. I would very much like to correspond with our servicemen."

PATRICIA RUBY RIDDLE, 625 E. MAIN ST., DURAND, MICH. . . . "I am 17 years old,

5'4", weigh 120 pounds, have long jet-black wavy hair. I enjoy all sports, especially hockey and swimming. I love popular and hillbilly music, and give dancing lessons. Will be glad to exchange snapshots. Let's see you guys keep me busy with all your wonderful letters."

NANCY MUNGER, 911 PORTER ST., KALAMAZOO, MICH. . . . "I am 22 years old, 5', weigh 115, brown hair, green eyes. My hobbies are writing, music, dancing and sports of any kind."

ELLA MAE LITRELL, 4714 U. S. 112, RT. 1, TIPTON, MICH. . . . "I am 16 years old, 5'7" tall. I have blonde hair and blue eyes. I will answer all letters I receive."

SHEILA LITRELL, 4714 U. S. 112, RT. 1, TIPTON, MICH. . . . "I am 16 years old, 5'5" tall, brown hair and brown eyes. I will answer all letters I receive and trade snapshots with all."

JANICE WOODRUFF, 117 S. HARRIS, YPSILANTI, MICH. . . . "I am 5'7" tall, weigh 125 pounds and have green eyes and auburn hair. I would love letters from boys in service. I am 17. I like progressive jazz, writing and dancing."

PHYLLIS WOODRUFF, 117 S. HARRIS, YPSILANTI, MICH. . . . "I am 16 years old, 5'2" tall. I like reading and jazz."

BETTY WOOD, BOX 402, COTTONWOOD, MINN. . . . "I am 17 years old, 5'5" tall, have dark blonde hair and brown eyes. I like dancing, popular and western movies and all sports. I will exchange snapshots and answer all letters."

MARY ANN WELTON, 913 VALLEY ST., CARTHAGE, MO. . . . "I am 16, have brown hair and brown eyes, and I am 5'2" tall. I

like popular and western music and all sports, especially tennis, swimming, and skating. I will try to answer all letters and I will exchange pictures."

DIANE LOUISE SPILLMAN, R.R. 6, BOX 21, ST. JOSEPH, MO. . . . "My favorite sports are stock car racing, dancing and skating. I am 16 years old. Cross my heart, I'll answer every letter. So write to me pronto. My nickname is Dot."

DELORES ZYWIEC, 33 AVE. 8 ST., c/o PARKVIEW TRAILER CT., COLUMBUS, NEBR. . . . "I am 16 years old, brown hair, brown eyes, 5'4" tall. I would like to hear from any boys or girls in the service and civilians. Here's hoping I get some mail real soon."

SHARON SIEMERS, BOWBELLS, N. DAK. . . . "I am 16 years old and would like to hear from some of you fellows. I am 5'5" tall with light brown hair and brown eyes. Would appreciate a snapshot from whoever writes to me. So come on, fellows, pick up your pens!"

CLYDE J. OSBORNE, 258 TROUP AVE., BOWLING GREEN, OHIO . . . "I think you are doing a splendid service and since I've been in myself I know what it is like. I'll drop a line to any of the fellows who will write. I like music, letter writing and travel. I like boxing, wrestling, golf. So if you want letters, I'll try to oblige."

TONI MACHAN, 3100 COLERIDGE RD., CLEVELAND HEIGHTS 18, OHIO . . . "I am 16, brown hair and blue eyes and I am interested in writing lonely servicemen. I promise to answer all letters."

MARION GRIFFITH, RT. 4, BOX 135, PORTSMOUTH, OHIO . . . "I am 16 years old. I have long auburn hair, hazel eyes, 5'5½" tall. I love to write letters, roller skate and listen to popular and hillbilly music. I would like to hear from men in service, girls and boys from all over the world. I will exchange pictures with anyone that wishes."

LOYOLA McCAULEY, 2509 N. 38TH ST., MILWAUKEE 10, WISC. . . . "I am interested in writing to servicemen all over the world. I am 16 years old, 5'6" tall and have brown hair and green eyes."

MELISSA WALLENDAL, 1031 B WEST PIERCE ST., MILWAUKEE 4, WISC. . . . "I am 17 years old, 5'5" tall, with blonde hair and blue eyes. My favorite pastime is writing letters, especially to service guys. So come on, boys, please write."

SHIRLEY DOBBINS, RT. 2, BOX 47, PESK-TIGO, WISC. . . . "I am 17 years old, 5'3" tall, brown hair and blue eyes. I like all sports and promise to answer all mail I receive."

EDITH FRITZLER, 3101 HAMILTON AVE., RACINE, WISC. . . . "I am 16 years old, 5'2" tall, blonde hair and blue eyes. I will answer every letter I receive."

DELORES STEINER, R.R. 1, BOX 61, WHITEWATER, WISC. . . . "I am 16 years old, have brown hair, hazel eyes and am 5'2" tall. My hobbies are writing letters, reading, music, dancing, and cooking."

JANET HORNPOSTEL, WILLESVILLE, ILL. . . . "I am 16 years old, have brown hair, blue eyes and stand 5 feet 4 inches tall. I would like to correspond with servicemen stationed throughout the globe. I will answer quickly."

JANET ARLETA FREDERICKSON, R. #1, BOX 34, BROWNSTOWN, IND. . . . "I am 16 years old with brown hair and brown eyes. My height is 5 feet 4½ inches. I like to swim, roller skate and ice skate. I also like to play basketball. I will answer all the letters written to me as soon as I receive them. I am a junior in Brownstown High School. My major is mathematics and English. Come on, let me hear from some of you GI's. I'd be happy to exchange photos, too."

JANE TOMLINSON, 1328 SPY RUN AVE., FORT WAYNE, IND. . . . "I have been reading G.I. Joe for a long time, but I never really read about all of his pen pals until now. I want to be included among them. I am 15 years old, brown hair, blue eyes and 5 feet 2 inches tall. I hope to receive letters from some lonely G.I. I like all the popular records. I also enjoy swimming and dancing. I will answer your letters promptly. So long, until I hear from you GIs."

JOYCE CSABI, 916 N. FAIRVIEW AVE., SOUTH BEND, IND. . . . "I have dark brown hair, brown eyes and stand about 5 feet 2 inches tall. My interests are swimming, records and letters. I'd be willing to ex-

change photos, too, how about you?"

RUGH A. STEVENSON, 2200 WALLACE AVE., TERRE HAUTE, IND. . . . "I would very much enjoy writing to any servicemen and civilians who would care to write to me. I am 16 years old. I have blue eyes and brown hair. My replies will be prompt and I will exchange photos with any who wish to do so. My hobbies are dancing, roller skating, collecting stamps and coins. Here's hoping to hear from many of you real soon."

JUANITA DALTON, BOX 253, ASHLAND, KANSAS . . . "I would like to have my name and address in *G.I. Joe's Pen Pals*. I am most interested in writing to boys and girls between the ages of 17 and 28, especially to boys in the service. I have natural curly brown hair and brown eyes. I stand 5 feet 6 inches tall. I am 17 years old."

C. D. LaFORGE, ST. PAUL, KANSAS . . . "I am 16 years old, 5 feet 7 inches tall. Boys, write to me and you'll have answers before you know it."

ELAINE LUTZ, 5782 NINE MILE RD., AUBURN, MICH. . . . "I have read your magazine many times and I would like to have you add my name to your list of pen pals. I am 17 years old, have blonde hair and blue eyes. I stand 5 feet 3 inches tall. I like to read and also enjoy writing letters. It's up to you to give me the opportunity to write them. Hop to it!"

BONNIE JEAN DeMARS, COOKS, MICHIGAN . . . "I am 16 years old with brown hair and blue eyes. I am 5 feet 5 inches tall. Now that you have my name and address I am looking forward to receiving plenty of mail from our boys in service. You write—I'll answer."

SANDRA GORNBEIN, 20109 FREELAND, DETROIT 35, MICH. . . . "I am 16 years old, have brown hair and brown eyes. My interests include dancing, skating and pen pals. I hope to correspond with civilians and servicemen alike. With each letter I receive an answer will immediately go out."

ETHEL GREEN, 691 E. MANSFIELD, PONTIAC, MICH. . . . "I am 18 years old, brown hair, blue eyes and I am 5 feet 3½ inches tall. I have been reading your magazine for almost a year and think that the *Pen Pals* feature is great. I hope that having my name listed in it will bring me lots of mail. I'll be more than willing to answer in no time at all."

DARLENE ANTILLA, 26 E. 4th ST., DULUTH 5, MINNESOTA . . . "I'd be interested in writing to boys in any branch of the armed services. I am 18 years old, 5 feet 2 inches tall and I have three loves—music, reading and writing. I'm also interested in sports of all kinds. I promise to answer all letters, so come on, boys, write!"

GWEN SHELLSTROM, R. 1, BOX 92, MOUND, MINN. . . . "I am 16 years old with blonde hair and blue eyes. I like dancing, hunting, and roller skating. I want to be a pen pal. I will answer all mail that I receive, so let me hear from you people wherever you may be."

DOROTHY SULTZE, BOX 216, WINONA, MINN. . . . "I would like to commend you on the splendid work you are doing. Please keep up the good work. I wish to have my name added to your next pen pals list. I am 18 years of age, 5 feet 5 inches tall with medium brown hair and brown eyes. I like all sports and music. I also enjoy writing and receiving letters. I hope to correspond with servicemen between the ages of 18 and 24. I'll answer as many as I can."

DORIS SACCO, 4528 W. 170th ST., CLEVELAND 11, OHIO . . . "I read every issue of *G.I. Joe* and I think that the *Pen Pals* section is the best ever. I'm 16 years old, 5 feet 6 inches tall with red hair and greyish-blue eyes. My nickname is 'Ginger.' I like most sports, especially swimming, skating, and bowling. I love to write letters and would like to write to some servicemen and women and anyone else who doesn't receive much mail. I promise to answer each and every one that I receive and I will gladly exchange photos with anyone who cares to do so. Come on, gang, how about dropping me a line or two or three?"

LELLA JONES, 2577 SCOVILLE, CLEVELAND 15, OHIO . . . "I am a gal who would like to write to lonely servicemen. I am a Negro, 5 feet 7 inches tall with brownish-black eyes and black hair. My age is 16. I like to sing, dance, play baseball and swim. I am enthusiastic about all kinds of music. I would especially like to hear from servicemen between the ages of 17 and 19, but

am so happy to write to any of our boys and to exchange snapshots with them."

PATRICIA ANN WATTS, 117 EAST PARK AVE., HUBBARD, OHIO . . . "For quite some time I have been looking forward to having my name printed in *G.I. Joe's Pen Pals* so that I might correspond with the fellows in the service. I have black hair, blue eyes and stand 5 feet 1 inch tall. At the age of 20 some of my particular interests are music, wrestling and skating. Now that my name and address appear, let me hear from you pen pals."

BECKY WILSON, BOX 165, NEW VIENNA, OHIO . . . "I am looking forward to having my name published in *G.I. Joe* because I want to correspond with either girls or servicemen. Having three brothers in the service I realize how very much they appreciate mail. I am 18 years old, 5 feet 3½ inches tall with brown eyes and brown hair. I will be very glad to answer each and every letter I receive."

HELEN ROWLEY, 883 ROXANNA DR., VAN DALIA, OHIO . . . "I have been reading *G.I. Joe* for a long time and enjoy it. I would like to correspond with men in the service. I am 17 years old, 5 feet 3 inches tall with blue eyes and long red hair. I like almost every type of sport. Write to me and I'll answer!"

SALLY ZARM, BOX 383, CRANDON, WISC. . . . "I want to write to the boys in service. I am 16 years old, 5 feet 2 inches tall, have blonde hair and blue eyes. I enjoy writing, dancing and reading. So come on, guys, let's hear from you."

LOIS BULTMAN, 3150 N. PALMER ST., MILWAUKEE, WISC. . . . "I am anxious to write to some lonely soldiers. My age is 16 and I am 5 feet 10 inches tall with blonde hair and blue eyes. I enjoy most sports and I especially love to write to some GIs. Come on, guys, I promise to answer all your letters."

DONNA THIELBAR, R. R. #1, MISHICOT, WISC. . . . "I have been reading your column of *Pen Pals* and would like very much to write to some GIs. I will answer all the letters that I receive from them. I am 16 years old, 5 feet tall with blue eyes and brunette hair. I am interested in many activities which I will tell you about when you write."

FAR WEST

ANN STECKLINE, BOX 173, BRIGHTON, COLO. . . . "I like dancing, swimming, horseback riding, movies and all kinds of music and letter writing. I am 5'8" tall and weigh 135 pounds. I have blonde hair and brown eyes."

JANICE DIBB, 141 N. 5TH, BRIGHTON, COLO. . . . "I am 18 years old, blue eyes, light brown hair and 5'3". I like swimming, dancing, tennis and letter writing."

MARY ANN MULLIN, BOX 404, LIMON, COLO. . . . "I am 5' with dark brown hair and eyes. My hobbies are letter writing and taking pictures. I like music of all kinds. I promise to answer all letters I receive."

PATTI KAY CONNELLY, 8842 ORREY PL., MIDWAY CITY, CALIF. . . . "I'm a tall, brown-eyed blonde, 16 years old, and would like to write to a tall Catholic fellow. I will answer all letters that I receive."

ALICE GIBSON, 690 OLIVE ST., NEWARK, CALIF. . . . "I love choral music, flowers and good books. My age is 17 and I have blue eyes and brown hair. I am 5'5" tall and weigh 126 pounds. I will be pleased to write to ladies and gentlemen from all different parts of the world."

JEANNIE HONORIS, BOX 19, RIPON, CALIF. . . . "I'm a Spanish chic who would like to have a correspondent. I am 18 years old, 5' tall, long jet black hair, black eyes, weigh 108. Will be glad to exchange snapshots."

SANDRA CLARK, 202 N. 13TH AVE., POCA TELLO, IDAHO . . . "Teen-ager would like to write to servicemen up to and including 20 years of age."

VIRGINIA JEAN WILLIAMS, BOX 351, CROW AGENCY, MONT. . . . "I'm 18 years old, 5'6" tall, brown hair and hazel eyes. Music, rodeos, horses and dancing are my interests. Also traveling. All letters will be answered."

BRENDA HAMES, RT. 3, MISSOULA, MONT. . . . "I have brown hair and eyes. I am 5'6½" and love all kinds of music, especially western and hillbilly. I also like to cook and sew. Please write, boys."

JANETTE WARREN, 616 N. ASH ST., CARLSBAD, N. MEX. . . . "I am 19 years old, blue eyes, dark brown hair, 5'3" tall and weigh 120 pounds. I'd like to hear from service boys and girls all over the world. I promise to answer every letter that I receive."

PATRICIA WRIGHT, 1865 BIRCH ST., BAKER, ORE. . . . "I am 18 years old with brown hair and eyes. I will trade pictures with anyone who will write. I would like to hear from servicemen."

JESSIE RIDDLE, IRRIGON, OREGON . . . "I am 16 years old, 5' tall with light brown hair and green eyes. I would like to write to servicemen between the ages of 16 and 20."

NORMA JEAN SUMNER, BOX 56, BROADBENT AVE., MYRTLE POINT, ORE. . . . "I am 16, I have blonde hair, brown eyes and I am 5'4" tall. I will answer all letters I receive and also exchange snapshots."

CHARLENE RICHARDS, 3475 MARIGOLD ST., MAGNA, UTAH . . . "I am 16 years old, have blonde hair, blue eyes and I am 5'4" tall. I weigh 109 pounds. I love to dance, like music and all sports, especially basketball. I will trade pictures with anyone who wants to."

SHIRLEY MAE PEDERSEN, R. 1, GRANGER, WASH. . . . "I would like to write to servicemen between 17 and 19 in U. S. I'd gladly exchange snapshots. I am 16, 5'2", light brown hair, blueish green eyes. Come on, fellows, let's hear from you. I won't let you down."

DARLENE DAVIS, 910 WOODWORTH, CLOVIS, CALIF. . . . "I am hoping to acquire pen pals from all over the world. My age is 16 and I am 5 feet 8 inches tall with light brown hair and blue eyes. I will answer all letters that come my way."

AVA HAAS, 8732 FONTANA, DOWNEY, CALIF. . . . "I have blonde hair and blue eyes. At 17 years of age I have many interests including music, philosophy, sports and dancing. I will write to any servicemen that I hear from, so make it soon."

FLORENCE FREEBURG, 5721 STRATFORD, LOS ANGELES 42, CALIF. . . . "Quite some time ago I had my name printed in *Pen Pals* and now I would like to have it in again so that I may meet more people. I am 29 years old with ash blonde hair, blue eyes and I stand 5 feet 6½ inches tall. I hope to hear from boys in any and all branches of the service."

ADELITO DELGADO, 1065 3 ST., OAKLAND, CALIF. . . . "I am 16 years old, 5 feet 2 inches tall with dark brown hair and light brown eyes. I like reading and writing and I want to correspond with some of our servicemen. There are a number of things that I enjoy doing: raising animals, dancing, going to movies, and listening to the radio. I'll be happy to exchange snapshots."

PALMERO GARCIA, BOX 142, THORNTON, CALIF. . . . "I would like to exchange letters with some of the boys in the service. I am 16 years old, have brown hair, blue eyes and stand 4 feet 11 inches tall. I'll answer you all, so give me the opportunity, how about it?"

JEWELL PFEIFER, 614 NORTH 2nd ST., MISSOULA, MONT. . . . "I am very interested in corresponding with men in the service. My description is, 5 feet 3 inches tall with brown hair and blue eyes. I am 16 years old."

VELDA ALTHEA SMITH, BOX 23, NIXON, NEV. . . . "I am 19 years old, have brown hair and brown eyes and stand 5 feet 2 inches tall. Come on, boys, drop me a line and I sure will answer."

SHARON TAYLOR, 735 FOOTHILL DRIVE, BAKER, ORE. . . . "I am just one of the many readers of *G.I. Joe* who would like to correspond with servicemen. I am 16 years old, but by the time this appears I will probably have turned 17. I have dark blue eyes, brown hair and I am 5 feet 3½ inches tall. Some of my diversions are writing, bowling, horseback riding, tennis and a few others. I promise to answer each and every letter I receive. Just keep the letters rolling. I will also exchange snapshots."

CAROL MORROW, 592 WEST 5th AVE., EUGENE, ORE. . . . "I like your magazine very much and would like to receive letters from all parts of the world. I will try my best to answer all letters. I am 16 years old, brown hair, brown eyes and I stand 5 feet 2 inches tall. I enjoy roller skating and bowling."

JOANN AMOSSO, 605 E. 2nd ST., CLERMONT, WASH. . . . "Here's my plea for pen

pals. I am interested in corresponding with servicemen everywhere. I am 16 years old, 5 feet 5 inches tall and a dark eyed brunette. I promise to answer all the letters I receive, so write soon."

NOLITA HAMILTON, ROUTE 1, BOX 318, KENNEWICK, WASH. . . . "I am most anxious to correspond with servicemen. I will answer all letters that I receive as promptly as possible. I am 17 years old, 5 feet 5½ inches tall with light brown hair and dark blue eyes. How about filling my mailbox?"

HERBERT F. GREEN, 1525 FRANKLIN AVE., SEATTLE 2, WASH. . . . "I am 21 years old, have blonde hair and blue eyes. I got out of the service last May. I like all sports, music, dancing, swimming, stamp collecting and want to write. I'll answer every letter I receive by air-mail. Drop me a post card. I'll be waiting to hear from you."

CANADA

DIANE PHILLIPS, 166 EDMONTON ST., WINNIPEG 1, MANITOBA, CANADA . . . "I am just about 17 years old, 5'2½", blonde hair and blue eyes. I like all sports, music, especially dancing. So come on, boys, let me hear from you real soon and I will answer immediately."

ANN MARIE THIBODEAU, 575 ST. JOHN ST., BATHURST, N. B., CANADA . . . "I am 19 years of age, with blue eyes and light brown hair. I am 5'4" tall. I would like very much to hear from any boys and girls, also servicemen who would care to write. I promise to answer any letters that I receive."

LUCILLE LeBLANC, BOTSFORD PORTAGE, WESTMORLAND COUNTY, NEW BRUNSWICK, CANADA . . . "I am 16 years old. I am 5'3" tall, brown hair, greyish brown eyes, and fair complexion. I would like to correspond with boys in the service between the ages of 17 and 21. So come on, boys, don't let me down. I'll answer all letters."

MARY MacMASTER, RR 4, ANTIGONISH HARBOUR, ANTIGONISH CO., NOVA SCOTIA, CANADA . . . "I am 16 years old, I have brown hair and brown eyes. I would like to receive lots of mail from service boys."

JOYCE L. BOUTILIER, ARMDALE, RR 1, HALIFAX CO., NOVA SCOTIA, CANADA . . . "I would be very much pleased to receive letters from servicemen. I have dark-blond hair, blue eyes and stand 5'4". I am nicknamed Pinkie. I am 19 years old and would prefer hearing from boys between 20 and 25, although I will try to answer all letters."

IRVABELLE VAN PATTER, BOX 490, AYLMEER, ONT., CANADA . . . "I am 16 years old, 5'4" tall. I have blonde hair and blue eyes. My hobbies are oil painting, letter writing, and photography. I will answer all letters I receive and I hope to receive quite a few of them."

RUTH LEIGHT, 33 SCANE ST., CHATHAM, ONT., CANADA . . . "I am 16 years old, 5'8½", weigh 135 pounds. I have hazel eyes, auburn hair and fair skin with some freckles. My interests are correspondence, movies, hockey and I like to watch television."

TONI LAURILA, BOX 576, KIRKLAND LAKE, ONT., CANADA . . . "I am a teen-age girl who would like very much to correspond with servicemen. I will answer all letters and exchange snapshots. I like all sports, especially baseball, art, fishing, skating, hillbilly and popular music. Drop me a line."

MARLENE PATTERSON, FERRIS P.O., LAVASSE RD., NORTH BAY, ONT., CANADA . . . "My favorite pastime is swimming in summer and skating in winter. I would like to write to servicemen. I am 16 years old, strawberry blonde with dark blue eyes. I attend St. Joseph's College in my home town. Do write, boys."

PIERRE MOREAU, 58 POISSANT, VALLEY-FIELD, QUE., CANADA . . . "I would like to do something for our soldiers, who are doing so much for us. I am 25, 5'5" tall and I would like to have some friends in the States and all over the world. I am French, but I can read and write English. Do hope to have some letters soon."

BERNARDA O. OSI, 408 BARASOAIN ST., MAKATI, RIZAL, PHILIPPINES . . . "I am 39 years old. I would like to correspond with servicemen or civilians."

LUCY O. OSI, 408 BARASOAIN ST., MAKATI, RIZAL, PHILIPPINES . . . "I am 25 years old. I would like to correspond with the G. I. JOE readers, servicemen or civilians."

PHILIPPINES

BARBARA MATTHEWS, P.O. BOX 6185, FITZSIMONS ARMY HOSP., DENVER 8, COLO. . . . "I am a 20 year old girl, 5'3", with brown hair, brown eyes and I weigh 120 pounds. I have a Negro, Indian and Irish ancestry. I love music, dancing and sports. This is my first time away from home for any length of time and I would like to receive letters from those who know what it's like to be lonely. I promise to answer your letters."

SP-2 GELVIN H. BOLIN JR., RA 23192251, 29TH TANK CO., 714TH TANK BN., FT. BENNING, GA. . . . "I am a lonely G.I. Joe. I am 24 years old, have light brown hair and dark brown eyes. I like all sports and I love to dance and write letters."

PVT. WM. L. SEASTROM, RA 19549572, HU-MORTAR CO., 26TH INF. REST., FT. RILEY, KANSAS . . . "I'm 18 years old and I would like to hear from gals in the U. S. I have brown hair and brown eyes. I like to dance and write letters in my free time. I'm 5'8" tall and my home is in Burbank, Calif."

ARMY

GERMANY

BRITISH WEST INDIES

MARJORIE ANN LOWE, 149½ WINDWARD RD., WINDWARD RD. P. O., KINGSTON, JAMAICA, B.W.I. . . . "I have been reading your magazine for some time and think it is just grand. I would like to add my name to the list of Pen Pals in the hope that there will be a large exchange of mail between Jamaica and other parts of the world. I have dark brown hair and brown eyes. I am about 5 feet 4½ inches tall. I like to engage in various activities such as swimming, hiking, playing tennis and dancing, especially the Mambo and the Cha-Cha. I am 16 years old. I'll be happy to exchange pictures to all who wish it. So hurry all you fellows and fill my mail box!"

GERMANY

HANNELORE KRAUSE, NUERNBERG, 37 HEERWAGEN-STR., BAVARIA, GERMANY . . . "I am 19 years old, light blonde hair and green eyes. I am 5-feet 7 inches tall. I like basketball, dancing, cooking and I am particularly fond of swimming as well as all kinds of music. I learned English at school and spent a long time in England. I hope to meet some new friends this way. I will answer all letters as promptly as possible and will be happy to enclose my picture in any letter I answer."

What Do You Know About "TAPE-PALS?"

"Tape-pals" hold conversations, exchange their favorite music, record countless other items on tape for far-away friends. Read more about them and other hobbyists in **PEN PALS Magazine**—on sale October 11!

This new magazine is filled with names and addresses of pen-pals all over the world—lists them for you according to hobby or special interest. **BUY YOUR COPY OF PEN PALS AT YOUR FAVORITE NEWS-STAND—ONLY 35c.**

FROM THE SERVICEMEN

ARMY

AIR FORCE

PFC JOHN VAUGHN, RA 16469924, D CO 2U INF REGT., FT. RILEY, KANSAS . . . "I am a lonely GI, 21 years of age. I am from Kingston, Jamaica. I would like to correspond with girls from 17-20. I will answer letters promptly and also exchange photos."

PVT. JACK BLACKBURN, RA 18493496, CO 'E' BKS. 3510, 1ST STU. BN., FT. DEVENS, MASS. . . . "I am originally from Texas but I only stand 5'7". I would like to hear from girls that height or shorter."

WAYNE OLSON, RA 17420465, 29TH 'T' CO AAM, FT. EUSTIS, VA. . . . "I am 22 years old, 5'4" tall, weigh 125 pounds and have light brown curly hair with green eyes. I don't receive much mail and would like to hear from girls all over but especially from Arizona, as I will be going there in the near future."

PFC FRANK L. HAYNES, RA 16497661, SERV. BATTERY 15TH AFA BN., 2ND INF. DIV., FT. LEWIS, WASH. . . . "I am a lonely GI here at Ft. Lewis. I have many friends in the Army but I do enjoy receiving correspondence and promise to answer every letter that I receive."

PFC HARRY F. SIMPSON, RA 11292604, BATTERY 'B' 15TH AFA BN., FT. LEWIS, WASH. . . . "I am 20 years old, 6'1". I weigh 190 pounds and have blue eyes and blonde hair. I love all outdoor sports and play a trumpet. I have a terrific love for good music. I will answer all letters. I really need someone to write to."

PVT. WILLIE J. GUNTHER, 24421531, GEN. DEL., BERKLEY, W. VA. . . . "I am 17, 5'7" tall. I am very fond of football and horse-shoe playing. I will answer every letter I receive. Here's hoping to hear from some wonderful girl soon."

NAVY

A. L. WRIGHT, AA 4802103, NATTU., U. S. NAVAL AIR STATION, ACA SCHOOL CLASS 56-23 SEC. B, OLATHE, KANSAS . . . "I am 17 years old, 5'10". I would like to correspond with some 15 or 16 year old girls. My hobbies are dancing, riding and hiking. I promise to answer all letters that I receive."

ROSE BARTELIN, DKS, c/o DISBURSING OFFICE, NAVAL AIR STATION, ATLANTIC CITY, N. J. . . . "I'm a Wave and writing letters is one of my hobbies along with reading. My favorite sports are swimming and roller skating. I'm nearly 19 and have brown hair and green eyes and am 5'6".

OSBOURNE ELLIOTT, P/P FAETU, NAS, NORFOLK, VA. . . . "Since I left the farm, I am very lonely. I would like to correspond with some girls my own age. I am 19 years old, about 6' tall. I am a calm and fun loving person. I will answer all letters I receive."

MARINE CORPS

CPL. L. G. DREW, SOCS MCAS, CHERRY POINT, N. CAR. . . . "I am 21 years old and interested in just about everything. I would like to hear from some nice young lady."

PFC D. E. CRANDALL, SOCS, MCAS, CHERRY POINT, N. CAR. . . . "I would like to hear from some young ladies. I am 22 years old."

PFC ROLAND GRENIER, 1456666, BOX 1418, WPNS-TRNG-BN, MCRD, PARRIS ISLAND, S. CAR. . . . "I am 19 years old, 5'8" tall, weigh 150 pounds, have brown hair and blue eyes. I like all sports. I will answer all the letters I receive."

PVT. MARION PINNELL, BOX 1205, WPNS BN, PARRIS ISLAND, S. CAR. . . . "I am 22 years old, 5'8" tall, brown hair and eyes. I would like to hear from any girls no matter what age."

A/2C BOOKER RUSH, AF 13533794, 2016-2 AACS DET., NEW CASTLE CO. ARPT., DEL. . . . "I am a Negro airman, 20 years old and tall. I like music, dancing and having fun."

A/2C MICHAEL J. SCANLON, HQ-MATS-COMPTROLLER, WASHINGTON 25, D. C. . . . "I'd like to correspond with girls all over the world especially those living in Virginia, Maryland and Connecticut. I'm 5'6" tall with brown hair and blue eyes and I'm 18 years old. I'll answer all mail and exchange photographs."

TED R. BARRETT, AF 14577461, 321ST A&E MAINT. SQD., PINECASTLE AFB, ORLANDO, FLA. . . . "I have auburn hair, blue eyes and stand 6'1" tall. I would like to correspond with lots of girls because I like to write. I am 22 years old. I like all music and sports. Let's hear from you Southern Belles. My home is in Atlanta, Ga."

A/2C DAVE YARNALL, AF 11278504, BOX 11, 31ST A&E MAINT. SQ., TURNER AFB, ALBANY, GA. . . . "I am 20 years old, 6' tall with brown hair and hazel eyes. I love music and dancing. I would like to correspond with girls all over the world. I would be glad to send a picture if desired."

A/3C DOUGLAS FRINGER, AF 17267306, BOX 2429, CMR NO. 2, KEESLER AFB, MISS. . . . "I am 6'1" tall. I have light brown hair and blue eyes. I am 19 years old and very lonely."

A/3 ROBERT A. CHUFF, AF 11306810, POB 173, 3396 STU SQDN, KEESLER AFB, MISS. . . . "I am 18 years old. I am trying to find girls to write to and also trying to locate my buddy in the marines."

A/3C FRED W. MILLER, 14598469, 3399TH STU SQD, BOX 70, KEESLER AFB, MISS. . . . "I am 28 years old, 5'7", brown hair and brown eyes, having served in the army during world War II overseas. I would like to hear from girls around my age. I promise to answer all letters quickly. My friends call me Bill."

BILLY B. NOBLES, AF 14455151, CMR NO. 2, KEESLER AFB, BILOXI, MISS. . . . "I am 22 years old, brown hair, blue eyes and 5'5" tall. I would like to correspond with girls all over the world. I promise to answer all letters I receive."

A/3C LAWRENCE PIERCE, 14601836, BOX 14, 3386 STU SQD, KEESLER AFB, MISS. . . . "My home is Jacksonville, Fla. I am 18 years old, 5'10" tall and will answer all mail. Write soon."

A/2C BOB HARRIS, AF 14475376, HDQS SQDN 340 ABG, WHITEMAN AFB, SEDALIA, MISSOURI . . . "I am 21 years of age, 5'8" tall, with brown hair and hazel eyes."

A/3C WM. G. HELPHINGSTINE, AF 269-39682, 4928TH TEST SQDN, KIRTLAND AFB, N. MEX. . . . "I am 20 years old, 5'10" tall, brown hair, and hazel eyes. I hail from Winfield, Kans. I would especially like to hear from girls from Kansas, Okla., Colo., Ark., and N. Mex. I like to swim, horseback riding and writing letters. Well, come on, gals, I'm waiting for your letters."

A/3C RAYMOND D. PANTRY, AF 18996505, 4435TH AIR BASE SQDN, SEYMOUR JOHNSON AFB, GOLDSBORO, N. CAR. . . . "I am 6'3" tall, blue eyes and taffy blonde hair. I like baseball, football, popular, jazz and classical music. I like skating. I would like to correspond with girls from 15 to 21."

A/3C RICK HOWARD, 463 TROOP CARRIER WG (MED) AIR BASE GROUP, ARDMORE AFB, OKLA. . . . "I am 21 years old, a Negro serviceman and would like to receive letters from girls and boys all over the world. I work in the Base Photographic Lab. Will exchange snapshots with persons desiring to. Hurry and cheer up a lonely fellow."

A/2C JOHN MOLDONADO, AF 12469335, 1968TH AACS SQDN, CHARLESTON AFB, S. CAR. . . . "I am 5'10½" tall. I am 18 years old and I would like to receive letters from girls around my age. My home is in New York."

A/3C MEL VOLMAN, AF 19552583, 1968TH AACS SQDN, CHARLESTON AFB, S. CAR. "I am 5'10" tall, 18 years old. I would like to receive letters from girls around my age. My home is in Los Angeles."

A/2C STANLEY R. OCHOCINSKY, AF 132-79453, BOX 88, 17 TACRECONS, SHAW AFB, S. CAR. . . . "I am a lonesome airman. I am 24 years old, 5'10" tall, brown hair, hazel eyes and weigh 150 pounds. I like dancing, listening to records, swimming and telling jokes. I will answer all letters and will trade snapshots with anyone requesting them."

JOHN B. RILEY, A/C MAINT AIRFRAMES, NAAS CHASE FIELD, BEEVILLE, TEX. . . .

"I'm 19 years old, 5'5" tall, weigh about 145. I have blonde hair and blue eyes. I hope to meet many friends through PEN PALS."

LEE RUGER, HQ. SQ. 450 ABGRU, BOX 1, FOSTER AFB, TEXAS . . . "I would like very much to have my name and address in your column."

A/3C ROBERT E. BARDERS, BOX 1553, LACKLAND AFB, SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS . . .

"I am a 19 year old Negro boy. I am 5' tall and would like to correspond with girls from all over the country. I have black hair and dark brown eyes. I like all sports especially boxing. So start 'em coming. I promise to answer all letters."

A1/C FRANCIS A. HARRISON, AF 12115481, 25TH AMMO SUPPLY SQDN (DEPOT) HILL AFB, UTAH . . . "I am 26, stand 6'2", have brown hair and brown eyes. I like all sports especially basketball and hockey. I love to dance and I will exchange photos if they wish."

A/3C LAVERNE EBERT, AF 16499227, 99TH FIELD MAINT. SQDN, BOX 84, FAIRCHILD AFB, WASH. . . . "I am 18, have brown hair and brown eyes, 6'2" and weigh about 160. Love dancing and almost any sport especially swimming. Have lots of spare time, so come on girls, how about a letter."

A/2C V. CONRAD, 62ND INST. SQDN, LARSON AFB, MOSES LAKE, WASH. . . . "I am 21 years old, 5'10" tall, blonde hair and blue eyes. I hail from Washington, Ind. I would like to correspond with some ladies from the midwest. I would like to exchange pictures if possible."

A/2C MARLIN AMDAHL, BOX 79, 674TH A.C.&W. SQ., OSCEOLA AFS, WISC. . . . "I'm 5'10", have brown hair and eyes. I'm 19 years old and like all sports, especially skating. I'll answer all letters."

A/3C LOUIS ANDERSON, AF 19532452, 3450TH HOSP SQDN, FRANCIS E. WARREN, WYO. . . . "I am 19 years old and I would like to hear from girls all over the world. I like all sports. I am 5'10½" tall, have blue eyes and brown hair. I'll try to answer all letters."

A/3C THOMAS W. BARSTOW, AF 23398597 P/P, 3451 STURON, FRANCIS E. WARREN AFB, WYO. . . . "I am 5'10" tall, have brown hair, brown eyes and weigh 160 pounds. I am 19 years old. Like most sports and dancing. I would like to hear from people around Ohio, but I am not particular where I hear from."

COAST GUARD

BILLY ANSLEY, M M 2, USCG C. VIOLET, FOOT OF CLINTON ST., BALTIMORE 24, MD. . . . "I would appreciate it very much if you would put my name and address in your column so that I will receive a little mail from some one."

MAIL BAG

"Several issues back I had my name and address printed in your wonderful magazine. I'm still getting letters from the fellows that think I still live in Cincinnati. Well, I wanted to tell them my new address as I moved quite a few months ago. Norwood is bordered on four sides by the city so I'm still well-acquainted with what goes on around there. Some of the letters I haven't answered, but all those that I haven't personally attended to, I have given to one of my good friends. So, fellows, you now know my new address."

ETHEL JACKSON
2208 WASHINGTON AVE.
NORWOOD 12, OHIO

"I, as many other readers of your fine magazine, wish to compliment you on the job being done for the servicemen. Through this magazine I had the pleasure of meeting a wonderful boy, who is in the Marine Corps. We have found much to say and will say for as long as time permits. Thank you for giving me the chance to write what I wanted."

KIM TOM

"Would you please put my name in your PEN PALS section. I had my name in the October issue of 1955. But since I have moved I have lost just about all contact with all the boys who have written me. I really enjoyed getting all those letters."

SANDY PATRO
134 BEAUREGARD
MAPLEWOOD, LA.

THIS IS YOUR FEATURE — SEND US YOUR LETTERS!

The address: G.I. JOE'S PEN PALS, ZIFF-DAVIS PUBLISHING CO., 366 MADISON AVENUE, N. Y. 17, N. Y.

BIG NEWS FOR LETTER WRITERS!

Read PEN PALS Magazine

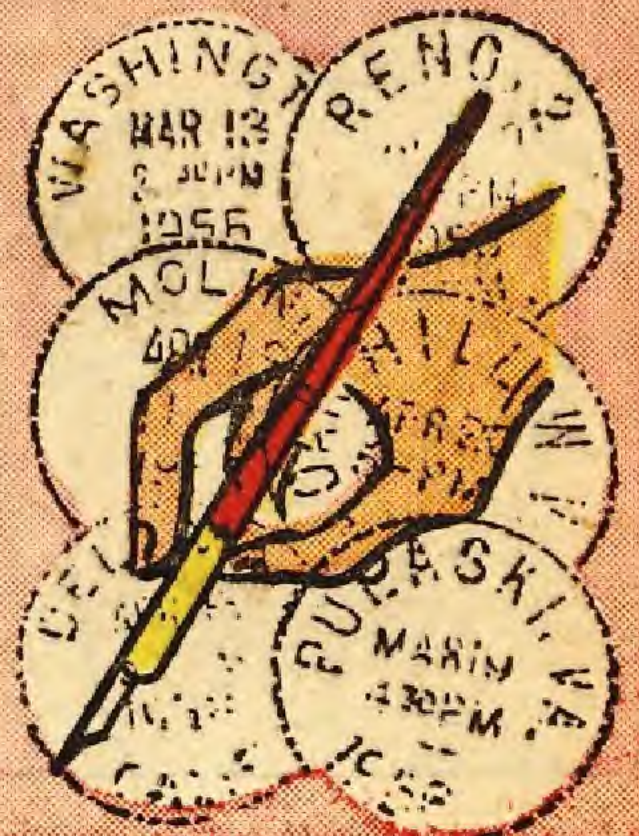
Here it is! PEN PALS—a big new Ziff-Davis magazine for the millions who enjoy corresponding with interesting people throughout the world.

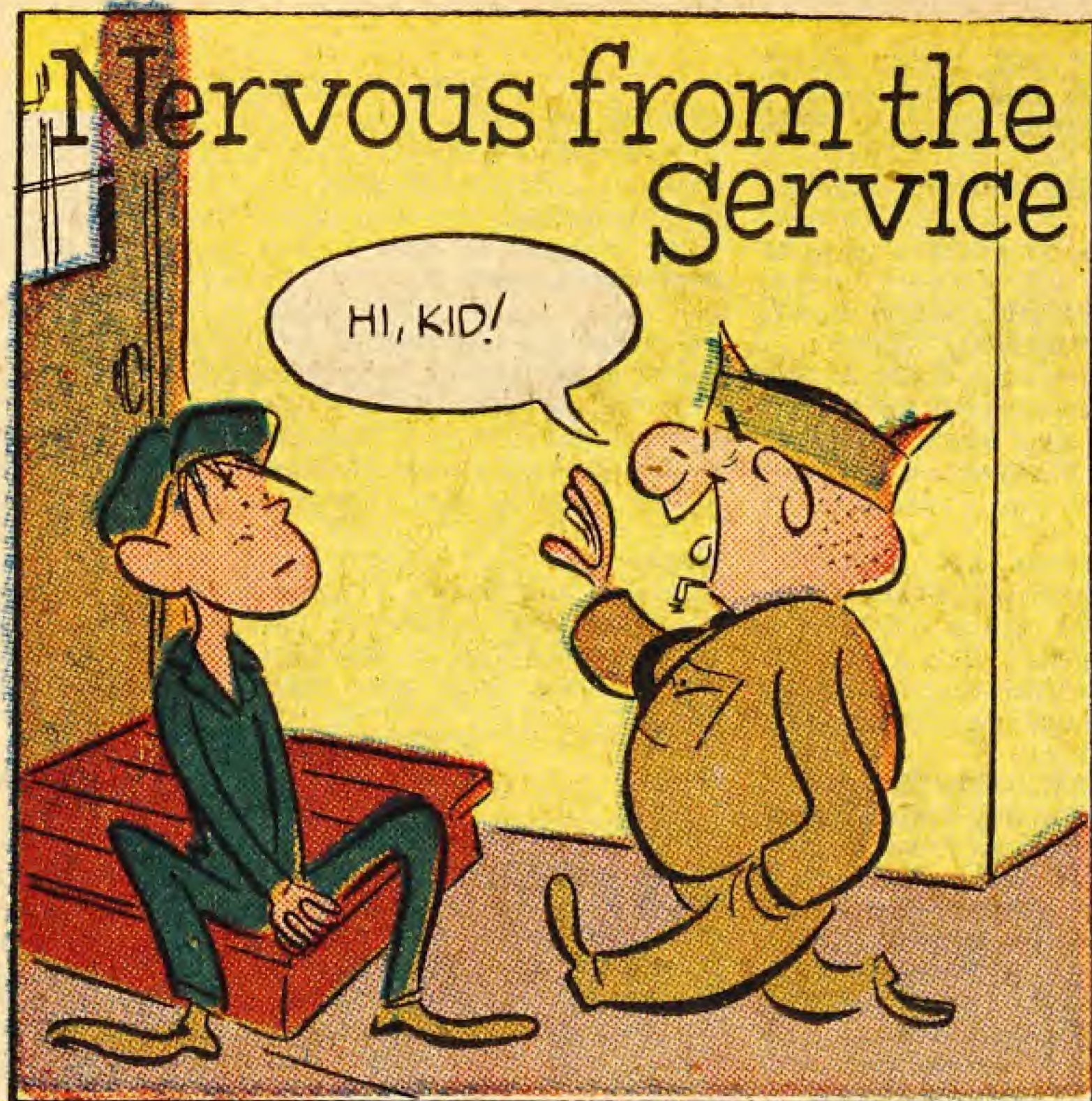
If you like writing and enjoy getting correspondence from new friends, then PEN PALS is *your* magazine!

G. I. JOE's own pen pals columns will continue, of course. But for added enjoyment, don't miss new PEN PALS magazine!

Ask for it at your favorite newsstand.

ON SALE SOON





G.I. Joe

in HALF-SOLD

THERE IS NOTHING READY-MONEY REILLY LIKES BETTER THAN THE FEELING OF BEING WELL-HEELED... AND WHEN ALVIN "UGLY" OTIS CAME UP WITH WHAT LOOKED LIKE A FOOL-PROOF RECIPE FOR BECOMING A MILLION-AIRE, READY-MONEY WAS CONVINCED HIS NEXT ADDRESS WAS GOING TO BE FORT KNOX! OUR STORY OPENS THE NIGHT OTIS DECIDED TO COOK HIMSELF A LATE SNACK, AND SERGEANT CACCITORE'S MESS HALL WAS THE MOST CONVENIENT PLACE...

YOU GOT EVERYTHIN' IN THAT POT BUT YERSELF, UGLY! WHY DON'TCHA TRY CLIMBIN' IN AN' GIVIN' IT SOME REAL FLAVOR?

OH, I COULDN'T DO THAT, SERGEANT CACCITORE — BUT THANKS ANYWAY! I WOULDN'T WANT TO GET YOUR KITCHEN ALL MESSED UP WALKIN' AROUND IN WET SHOES! -- NOW... GRAN'PA ALWAYS SAID ONLY THE LITTLEST DROP OF OIL-OF-SUNFLOWER CONCENTRATE...

SO HELP ME, IF I TOLD HIM THE WET SHOES WAS OKAY, HE'D DO IT! HE'D DO IT!?!?

LUCKY THING I HAD JUST ENOUGH CONCENTRATE LEFT...



WHATTA NIGHT!

HIYA, CHICKEN! YA GOT THE LI'L RUNT DOIN' KP FER YA?

IS THAT YOU, READY-MONEY? YOU'RE JUST IN TIME FOR TASTIN' SOME OF THE SNACK I MADE! I'LL TAKE IT OVER TO THE TABLE...

... SO WE CAN -- OOPS!

OH, GOSH, READY-MONEY -- I'M SORRY!

NOW HE TELLS ME!!





DON'T SMELL LIKE
NOTHIN' I CAN
CLASSIFY RIGHT
OFF... EXCEPTIN'
MAYBE SWAMP
WATER!

I DON'T THINK MY
SNACK'S GOIN'
TO SPOIL YOUR
TROUSERS,
READY-MONEY,
HONEST! REMEMBER
GRAN'PA SPILLED
SOME ON THE WOOD-
PILE ONCE ...



... AND IT DIDN'T STAIN THE
LOGS ONE BIT! ONLY THING
HAPPENED WAS, HE NEVER
COULD CUT THROUGH 'EM!
READY-MONEY! WHERE'D
YOU EVER GET SUCH A
BEE-YOOTIFUL
SHOE-SHINE?



SHOE-SHINE? IN
THIS WEATHER?
ARE YOU **NUTS**?

HUH???

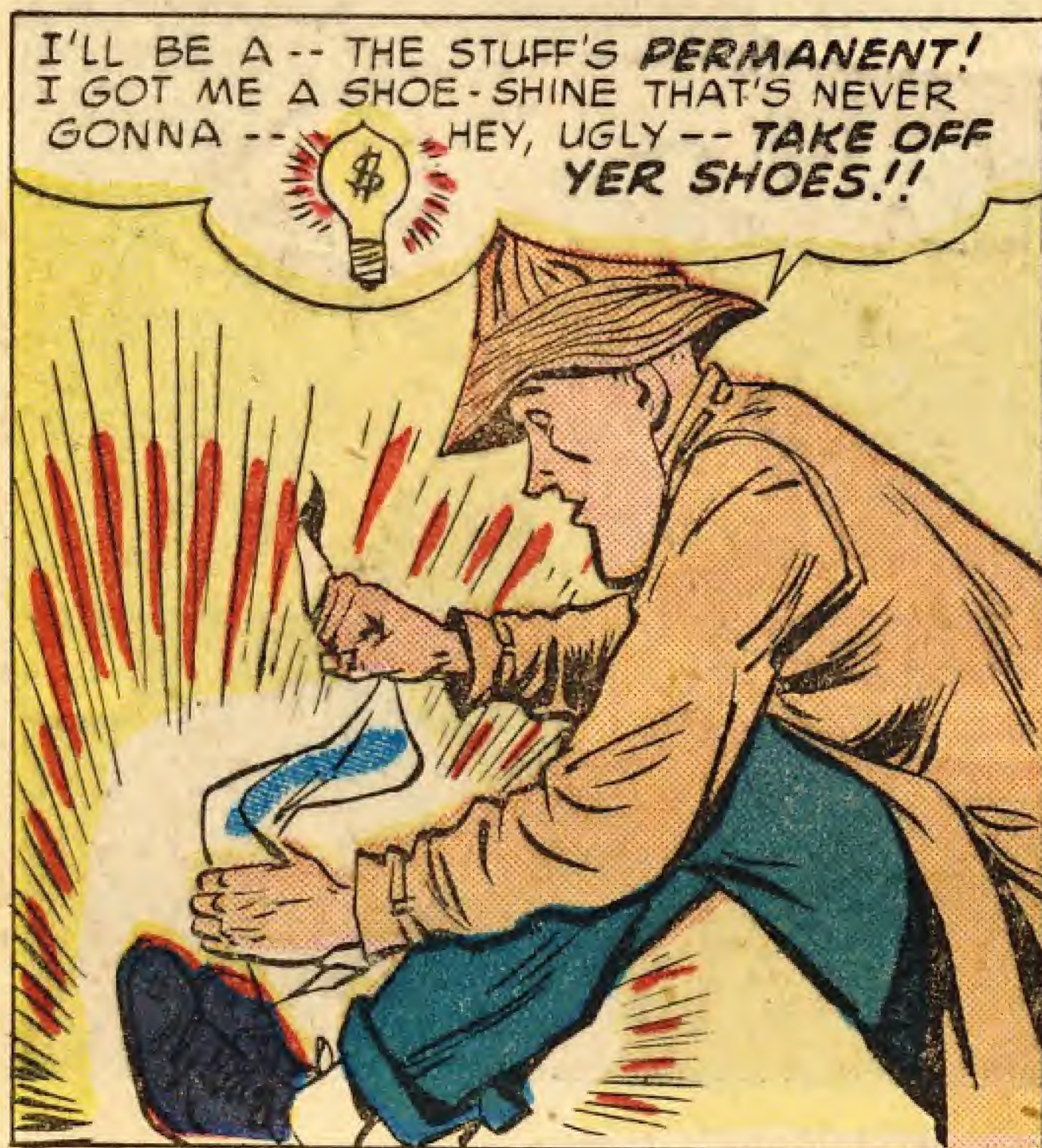
THEY HURT
TO LOOK
AT, BUT
THEY'RE AWFUL
PRETTY!



IT'S SURE FUNNY THE WAY MY SNACK
HIT YOUR TROUSERS, READY-MONEY,
AN' MISSED YOUR SHOES! DOES IT
FEEL LIKE ANY OF IT LEAKED INTO
YOUR SOCKS?



DON'T TELL ME THAT
STUFF DIDN'T HIT ME
SHOES! I **SEEN** IT!
NOW GIMME THAT
TOWEL ...



I'LL BE A -- THE STUFF'S **PERMANENT!**
I GOT ME A SHOE-SHINE THAT'S NEVER
GONNA -- HEY, UGLY -- **TAKE OFF**
YER SHOES!!



IT'S A BLOOMIN' **WONDER**
DRUG! A **PERMANENT**
SHOE POLISH, THAT'S
WHAT IT IS!

CAN WE PLEASE EAT
NOW, READY-MONEY?
I'M POWERFUL HUNGRY!

NOT MUCH LATER...

...AN' YER GONNA SIT THERE TILL YA REMEMBER **EVERYTHIN'** YA PUT IN IT! NOW GO AHEAD - **WRITE!**

...RAISINS... THREE QUARTS OF CLAM JUICE... SOME CHOPPED LIVER... HALF-A-GALLON OF MAPLE SYRUP...

GEE, I'M SORRY, READY-MONEY, BUT I'M STUCK! I DON'T THINK I CAN REMEMBER!



YOU WAS WATCHIN' HIM, CHICKEN! WHAT ELSE'D HE PUT IT IN?

THAT'S IT! CHICKEN WINGS! I REMEMBER THE REST OF IT NOW! REAL FAT ONES ARE THE BEST...



...AND THEY'RE **EXTRA** GOOD IF THEY'RE NOT PLUCKED, GRAN'PA ALWAYS SAID!

HOLY SMOKE! I NEARLY TASTED THE STUFF!



NOW, LET'S SEE...THERE WAS A CAN OF PAPRIKA -- A BOTTLE OF LEMON EXTRACTION... ABOUT A POUND OF CUCUMBERS...

HEY, C'MON OVER HERE, CHICKEN... LET THE LITTLE GUY FINISH HIS WRITIN'!



...FOUR OR FIVE SPOONS OF MUSTARD -- A COUPLE OF POUNDS OF TURNIP RINDS...

BY THE WAY, I BEEN MEANIN' TO ASK YA! HOW COME YER GETTIN' HOLD OF "CHICKEN" FER A MONICKER?



...SOME GARLIC... AND THE **LITTEST** DROP OF OIL-OF-SUNFLOWER CONCENTRATE!

IT WUZ ME MOTHER, READY-MONEY! SHE COULDN'T RESIST IT, THE WAY I LOOKED WHEN I WUZ A INFANT! SHE SAYS I

HAD ONE LITTLE CURL WHEN I WUZ BORNED WHAT MADE ME LOOK LIKE A BABY CHICK-- SO "CHICKEN" I WUZ CHRISTENED, AN' "CHICKEN" I BEEN EVER SINCE! WHY'D YA ASK? ANYTHIN' WRONG WITH IT?



I'M ALL FINISHED, READY-MONEY-- HERE IT IS! IT'S SURE NICE OF YOU TO KEEP MY RECIPE, BUT I DIDN'T KNOW YOU WAS FOND OF COOKIN'!!

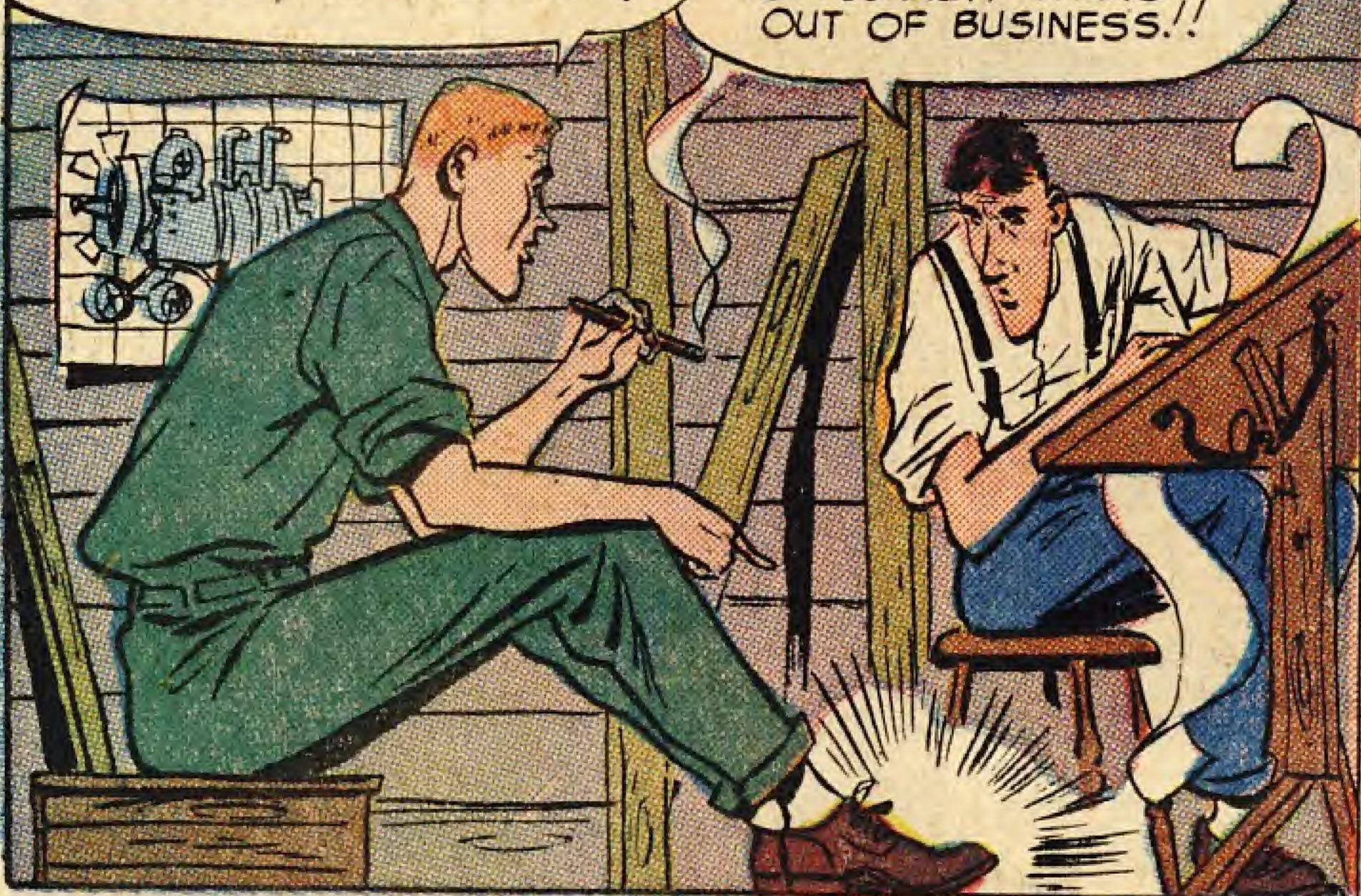
IT'S A DIFFERENT **KIND** OF NOURISH-MENT I'M AFTER, CHUM -- AN' IF YA EAT ONE **DROP** OUTA THAT POT, I'M GONNA **BLAST** YA, Y'HEAR?



THE FOLLOWING DAY, IN MERLIN MULLINS' GENERAL STORE...

NOW, THEM THERE ARE THE INGREDIENTS, MERLIN, AN' ME AN' UGLY'LL BE PROVIDIN' 'EM PROVIDIN' **YOU** CAN PROVIDE THE NECESSARY EQUIPMENT IN CASE WE GOTTA GET STARTED MANUFACTURIN' THE STUFF!

I RECKON I NEVER **DID** SEE ANYTHING SO **BRIGHT** BEFORE IN ALL MY LIFE! THIS HERE IS RIGHT LIKELY TO PUT EVERY SHOE POLISH COMPANY THERE **IS** PLUNKETY SPANG OUT OF BUSINESS!!



RIGHT! AN' THAT MEANS WE GOT 'EM RIGHT WHERE WE WANT 'EM! THEY'RE GONNA **HAFTA** MEET ME PRICE!

HOW MUCH YOU FIGGERIN' TO ASK?



FIVE MILLION DOLLARS -- **COLD CASH** -- AN' WE STOP MANUFACTURIN' THE STUFF FER **LIFE!** AN' THAT'S LETTIN' 'EM OFF **DIRT CHEAP** IF Y'ASK ME!

THAT'S A RIGHT FANCY HEAP O' MONEY, READY-MONEY, FER **NOT** MANUFACTURIN' SOMETHIN'!



THAT'S HOW **BIG BUSINESS** GETS DONE, MERLIN! WHEN THE COMPE-TITION'S GONNA KILL YA, YA **BUY OUT** THE COMPETITION! THAT IS, IF YOU'RE **SMART** Y'DO! IF YA DON'T, YOU'RE AN OVERNIGHT COLLAPSE! THAT'S THE CHOICE **THEY** GOTTA MAKE!

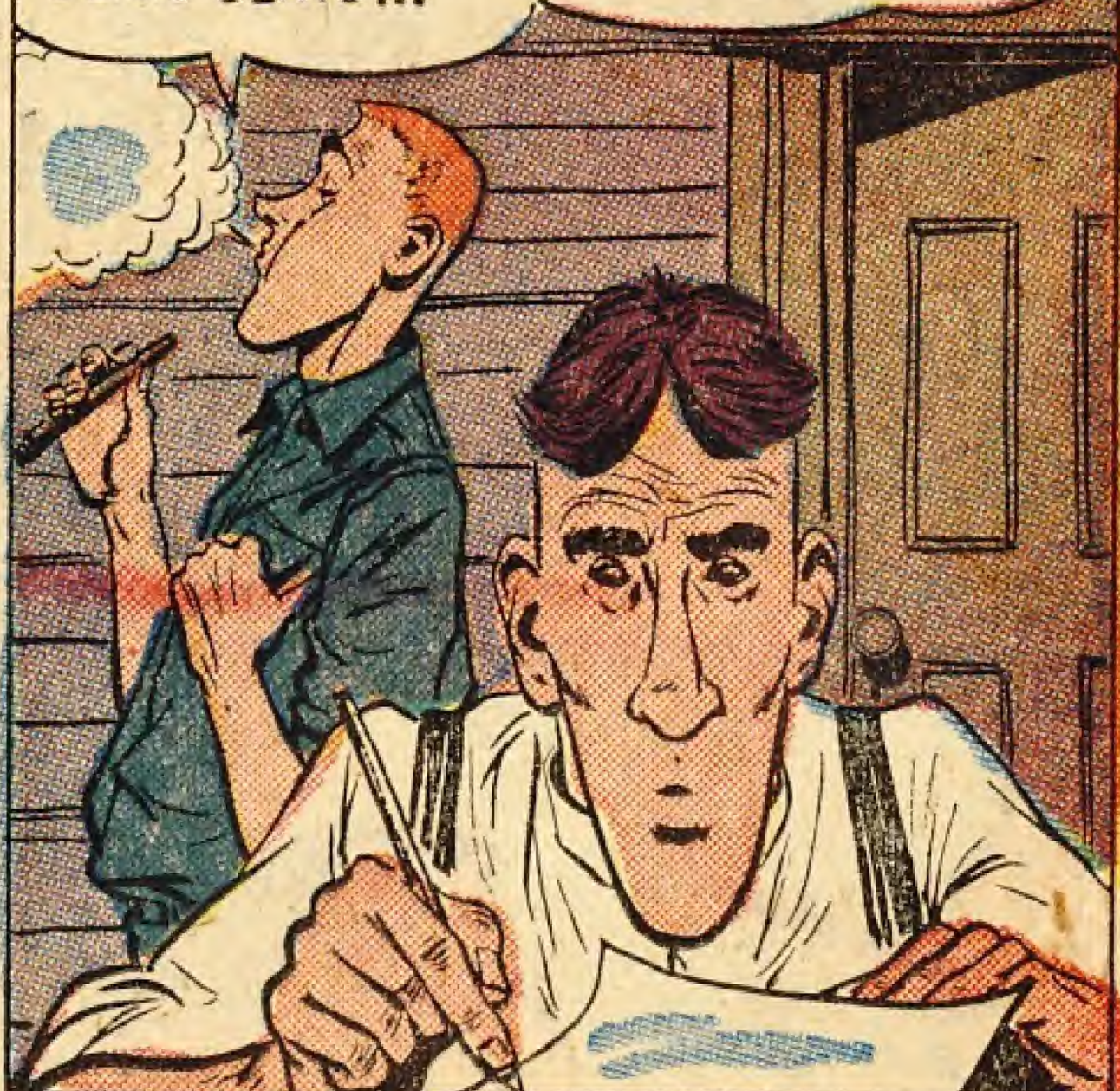
YOU GOT A REAL FEELIN' FOR BIG-TIME BIG BUSINESS, READY-MONEY! SAY-- WHERE'S THE RIGHT PECULIAR-LOOKIN' LI'L FELLER WHAT'S USUALLY WITH YOU?



Y'MEAN UGLY? OH -- WELL, HEH, HEH -- HE COULDN'T COME! I ALREADY SENT HIS PERMANENTLY-POLISHED SHOES UP TO NEW YORK FER THEM BIG MANUFACTURERS TO GET A LOOK AT! -- **NOW**, LET'S GET A LETTER OFF TO 'EM WHAT'S GONNA QUOTE 'EM ME PRICE!



"EGGLESTON AND WAGSTAFF, INC. ... NEW YORK CITY ... NEW YORK ... U.S.A. ... DEAR GENTS ..."



A FEW DAYS LATER, IN THE NEW YORK OFFICES OF EGGLESTON AND WAGSTAFF...

EGAD, L.Q., I THOUGHT I'D SEEN **EVERYTHING**, BUT THIS IS **TOO MUCH!** OUR LABORATORY HAS TRIED EVERY ABRASIVE THERE **IS**, BUT NOTHING — ABSOLUTELY **NOTHING** WILL REMOVE THIS SHINE! WE'RE **RUINED!**

YOU HAVEN'T HEARD THE WORST OF IT, P.J.! HERE'S A LETTER FROM THE INVENTOR — AND SUCH HIGH-HANDED INSOLENCE YOU HAVE NEVER HEARD! LISTEN TO **THIS...**

"...AND SO, IN CONSIDERATION FOR THE AMOUNT OF FIVE MILLION DOLLARS, ME AN' ME PARTNER WILL AGREE TO **NOT** KEEP MANUFACTURING THIS HERE PERMANENT SHOE-POLISH NO MORE — FOR LIFE!"

FIVE MILLION DOLLARS! WE'RE **RUINED**, L.Q.! EGGLESTON AND WAGSTAFF'S BACKS ARE **TO THE WALL!**

L.Q. WAGSTAFF
President

THERE'S A BIT MORE -- "ALSO FOR THE CONSIDERATION OF YOU GENTS PAYING OUR BUS FARE, ME AN' ME PARTNER WILL CONSENT TO COME TO NEW YORK FER DISCUSSIN' THIS THING, AND FER PICKIN' UP OUR MONEY. VERY TRULY YOURS ..."

FIVE MILLION DOLLARS! WHAT WILL THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS **SAY?** OH, L.Q., WE'RE **RUINED**, I TELL YOU! WHAT FLOOR ARE WE ON? ARE WE HIGH ENOUGH TO JUMP?

PULL YOURSELF TOGETHER, P.J.! THIS ISN'T THE **FIRST** CRISIS EGGLESTON AND WAGSTAFF HAVE HAD TO CONFRONT!

IT'S THE FIRST **FIVE-MILLION-DOLLAR** ONE!

NOW, TRY TO CALM YOURSELF! I'VE ALREADY SENT THE MONEY FOR THEIR FARES, AND I'VE CALLED AN EMERGENCY DIRECTOR'S MEETING FOR THE END OF THE WEEK! WE'LL SIMPLY HAVE TO **REASON** WITH THESE MEN! THEY'LL HAVE TO BE MADE TO **SEE** THE ABSURDITY OF THEIR DEMANDS!

ALL I CAN SEE IS **THAT PAIR OF SHOES!** EVERYWHERE I LOOK, THEY'RE **SHINING AT ME!** EVEN IN MY **SLEEP!** EVERY MAN HAS HIS BREAKING POINT, L.Q., AND **THIS IS MINE!**

STEADY, P.J.! **STEADY!** IF THE WORST COMES TO THE WORST, WE'LL HAVE TO PAY THESE MEN -- AND IF **THAT** HAPPENS, WE'LL HAVE TO CONVINCE THEM THEY MUST GIVE US THE **FORMULA**, TOO! ONCE WE HAVE **THAT**, WE'LL MAKE OUR FIVE MILLION BACK IN NO TIME!

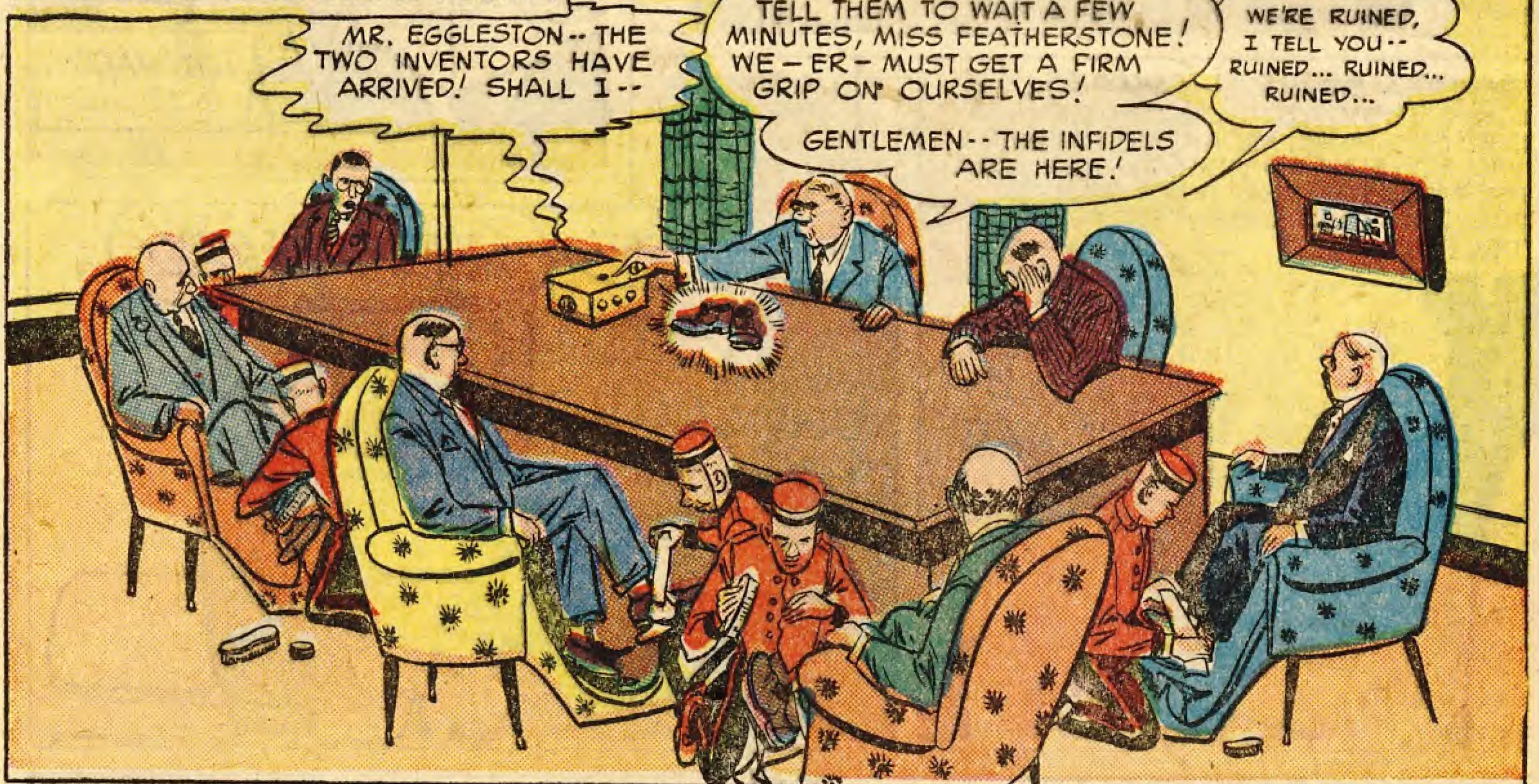
I WISH I HAD YOUR CONFIDENCE, L.Q. — BUT I SUPPOSE THAT'S WHY **YOU'RE** PRESIDENT, AND I'M ONLY VICE!

-- EXCUSE ME -- I'M GOING BACK TO MY OFFICE AND LIE DOWN!

THE END OF THE WEEK...



IN THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS' ROOM...





OH, YOU MEAN MY **RECIPE**? WHY, **SURE!** I KNOW IT BY **HEART!** YOU START WITH SOME RAISINS, AN' THREE QUARTS OF CLAM JUICE...

GET THIS, P. J.!!!

WAIT A MINUTE! I DON'T THINK IT'S VERY **FAIR** FOR HIM TO COPY MY RECIPE DOWN UNTIL YOU **PAY** FOR IT! **READY-MONEY** SAYS THAT'S THE WAY **BIG BUSINESS** GETS DONE!

EGAD--I **KNEW** IT WAS TOO GOOD TO BE TRUE! THE **LITTLE MONSTER** HAS US! **PAY** HIM, L.Q.! **PAY** HIM! WE'VE NO CHOICE BUT TO ACCEDE!



SIR--WE CONSIDER YOUR DEMANDS BEYOND ALL REASON, BUT IF YOUR PRICE IS **STILL FIVE--**

DOLLARS? YOU MEAN YOU'LL PAY **FIVE WHOLE DOLLARS** FOR GRAN'PA'S RECIPE? OH, WAIT TILL **READY-MONEY** HEARS **THIS!**

OH, **THANK YOU** VERY MUCH!

NOW... AFTER THE CLAM JUICE, YOU START IN WITH SOME CHOPPED LIVER AND HALF-A-GALLON OF MAPLE SYRUP...

GET THIS, WAGSTAFF! GET EVERY **SYLLABLE** OF IT, OR BY JOVE, YOU'LL BE CLEANING **INK-WELLS** IN THE MORNING!



A FEW DAYS LATER, BACK AT CAMP...

AWRIGHT, YA @*!! # @... LI'L DOUBLE-CROSSER, YA DONE ME OUTA FIVE MILLION BUCKS FER THE SHOE POLISH, BUT YER GONNA KEEP **MIXIN'** THE STUFF! WE'LL USE IT FER TERMITE-PROOFIN' LUMBER, LIKE YER GRAN'PA'S LOGS!

I THINK I GOT IT, **READY-MONEY...**



-- HERE - TASTE! MAYBE IT NEEDS --

READY-MONEY-- LOOK!!



WE COULD STILL EAT IT, REILLY!

THE END

DEAR GERTRUDE

Long Range, Texas
September 14, 1956

Dear Gertrude,

Well, babe, did you ever expect to have a real live, big important international celebrity for a husband-to-be? No, I bet you didn't, but you can sure change your mind about that now, because I am! Both me and Orville are! We are a "international incidence," and our Company Commander said so himself, so I guess you won't have any trouble believing it when I tell you how it happened. It's a very exciting thing to be, Gertrude, even though there was that time when it looked like maybe we were going to die and we could hear the firing squad practicing, but I don't want you to get all worried and worked up, we are just fine.

First of all, I better tell you that we are all finally settled here in our new camp in the state of Texas, U. S. of A., and, Gertrude, it is sure one great *BIG* place! If you ever thought old man Mullholland's cranberry bog was big, you can stop thinking so right now, because it wouldn't amount to even one little speck in your eye when it comes to seeing how big Texas is. It's so big, somebody told us (and he walked all kind of spread-out and rolling like he's done a lot of it, so he ought to know) that the buzzards fly down here for the winter and look so *small* that everybody feeds them breadcrumbs like they wasn't any more than just plain sparrows or something, but this man told us not to try feeding them until we've had some practice, because he said the buzzards aren't very friendly with strangers and are just as likely to pick you up and fly away with you as not, and there's no way of knowing what part of Texas they'll let you down in. He said sometimes they don't even bother to land you and they just let go, which means you can get pretty hurt. But don't you worry, Gertrude. We are being real careful.

Well, now that you know where we are stationed, I can get on to telling you the part about how we got to be this important "international incidence" the Captain called us. You see, our new camp is right down here near the Rio Grande River which runs all the way along separating Texas from the foreign country of Mexico, but they told us the Mexican people are very friendly and like to have us go over and visit them whenever we can. I mean by that, *all*

of us Americans, Gertrude, not just Orville and me.

So the night we got our first pass, we decided to go over across the Rio Grande River and start making friends, even though the only Mexican language word anybody taught us was "Si" which you pronounce like "See" and means "Yes" in our American language, and if it hadn't been for that one little word, babe, all the yelling wouldn't ever have got started and me and Orville wouldn't ever have -

I have to stop now, Gertrude, so I'll finish writing this tomorrow. A big dust storm just blew up, and we have to go help fasten things down.

xxxxxxx (That means kisses)
Your ever-loving-husband-to-be,
Sam Cosgrove, Pvt., U. S. Army

★ ★ ★

Long Range, Texas,
September 15, 1956

Dear Gertrude,

We got through the dust storm just fine, and you never saw anything so big and dusty and yellow-looking in all your life. Orville got hit by a tumbleweed which is a great big plant that looks like a barrel of barbed wire and runs around all by itself, but Orville thought it was a buzzard come after him so he made a dive for under a truck and cut his head on the rear axle, but he's fine now and resting real good while I finish writing to you. He's reading a book on all about buzzards so he'll know what one looks like when they start coming around for breadcrumbs.

Well, like I was writing you yesterday about how we are now this big "international incidence," I think I left off where we were going over across the Rio Grande River to start making friends, which is what we did, and we had hardly walked off the bridge into the foreign country of Mexico, after paying our two cents apiece which is what they charge, before we were surrounded by just about everybody in town they were so glad to see us. They were all laughing and pushing and calling us "Soldier" by our first name, and one nice old lady even pushed some food at us in a basket for us to eat, and we kept thanking her real nice and polite for it while we ate so as not to hurt her feelings, but the food was full of hot things

that burned all the way down, so Orville left off thanking her and started saying "Si" which he knew she'd understand, and right away she did, because she began waving her hand and rubbing her fingers together in front of Orville's face, and then she began to be not so friendly because Orville had to take her hand out of his pocket where he found it trying to take some change from him. Well, you can just bet Orville quit saying "Si" and we got away from there as fast as we could, which meant we had to run some because the old lady was screaming now, and the others were beginning to run after us.

It wasn't hard to lose them, Gertrude, because we just ran around a dark corner and into the first door we came to, which was a surprise because it was all lighted up and noisy inside and you couldn't hear any of this on the street. We saw a lot of people with big hats and blankets over their shoulders, all standing around a counter, and a big man behind it was wiping some glasses with a towel, so we knew we were probably in a Mexican soda-fountain and decided to have a soda or something, on account of being so thirsty after our running.

We went up to the counter, and honestly, Gertrude, you won't believe what we saw! Everybody was drinking out of little tiny glasses and then giving great big licks with their tongues to the back of their hands where they'd sprinkled salt before they took the drink. Well, naturally, Orville and me decided to be friendly and try this instead of the soda, so Orville pointed at the man's drink next to us and held up two fingers for the man behind the counter to see, and right away we had the little glasses and salt-shakers in front of us and the man was filling the glasses up.

We decided to watch the man next to us real careful, so we sprinkled salt on our hands when he did and picked our glasses up when he did, and when he drank, we did too, which is when I can only remember one thing, Gertrude, and that was that I was on fire and hoping that Orville would notice this and put me out.

When Orville didn't do anything to help, I turned around to grab him but he wasn't standing next to me any more, he was lying on the floor. He had hold of his neck with both hands and was making terrible noises like he was —

Orville just called me, Gertrude, to go help him change his head bandage, so I will close now and finish this tomorrow.

xxxxxxx (That means kisses)
Your ever-loving-husband-to-be,
Sam Cosgrove, Pvt., U. S. Army

P.S.: Boy! That was some soda!

★ ★ ★

Long Range, Texas
September 16, 1956

Dear Gertrude,

Orville's head is much better today, so I will finish writing to you where I left off with Orville lying on the floor in the foreign country of Mexico.

As soon as I could, I helped him get up and while we were both trying to get some air to breathe after that soda, the man next to us, all of a sudden, began waving his fists and flapping his blanket and doing a lot of yelling at Orville who listened to him, and finally got enough air to say "Si" which I was glad he thought of, because whatever was bothering the man would be all right now, and we could all get started making friends.

But do you know what, Gertrude? Instead of everything being all right, the man behind the counter began yelling into the telephone, and then a lot of men in Mexican uniforms came running in waving some guns, and they yelled louder than everybody else while they were taking Orville, who was still saying "Si," and me outside and locking us in the truck.

Orville said he guessed it was nice of them to give us a free ride home, but we changed our minds about this when we could hear the firing squad practicing outside the bars of our cell, and knew we were in jail. Even though we didn't know why they were mad at us, Orville said we'd refuse blindfolds and die like men, and he carved our names on the wall.

Well, do you know why they were mad? The man doing all the yelling was asking Orville if he thought that soda was poison, and when Orville said "Si" which means "Yes," we'd naturally insulted a whole foreign country, but our Captain finally came over and explained everything, so they let us go. Our Captain even paid the old lady at the bridge who gave us the food, because she saw us again and started screaming. Our Captain talks Mexican real good, Gertrude. We heard a lot of it while he was taking us home.

xxxxxxx (That means kisses)
Your ever-loving-husband-to-be,
Sam Cosgrove, Pvt., U. S. Army

P.S.: We found out that it really wasn't a soda.

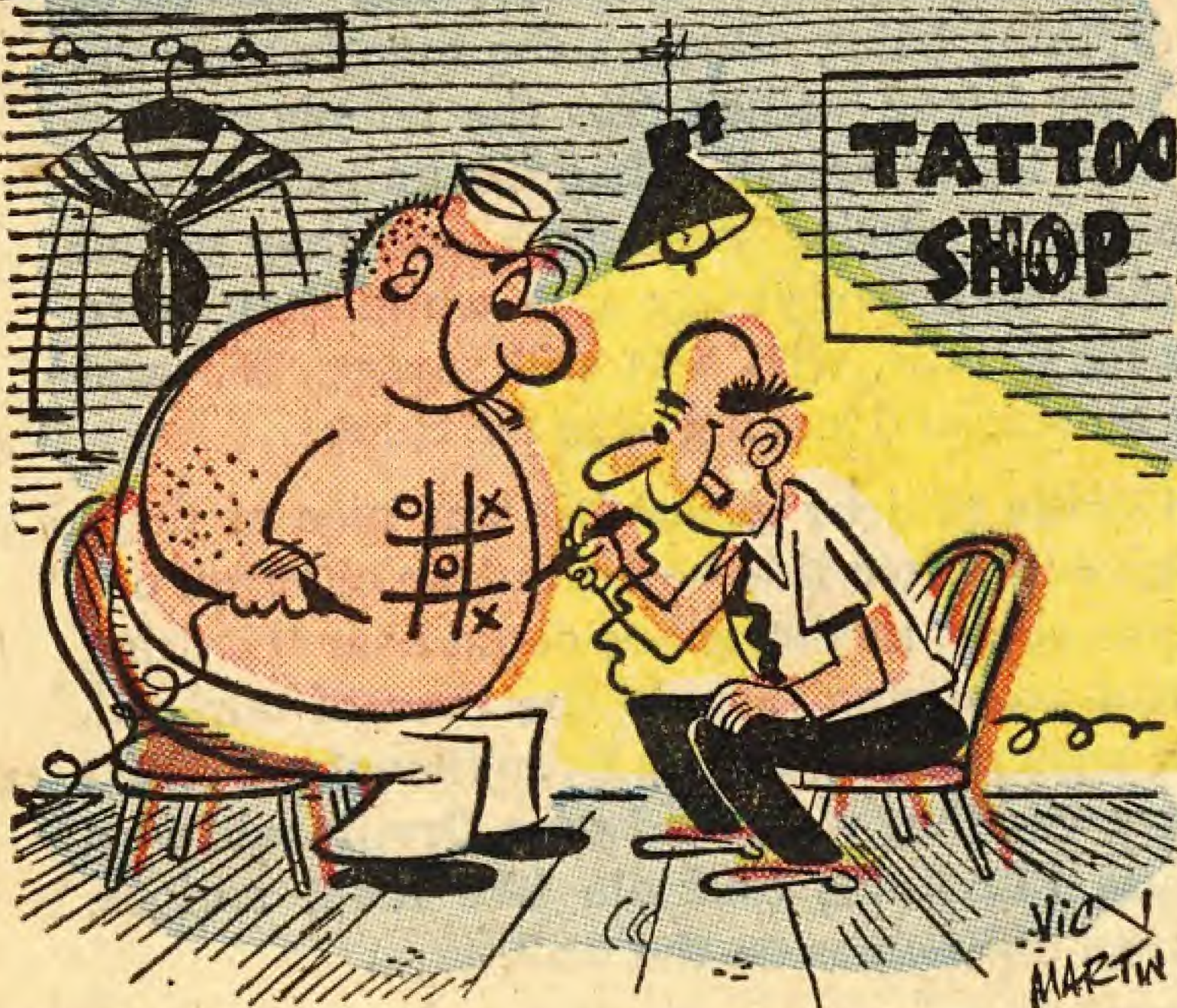
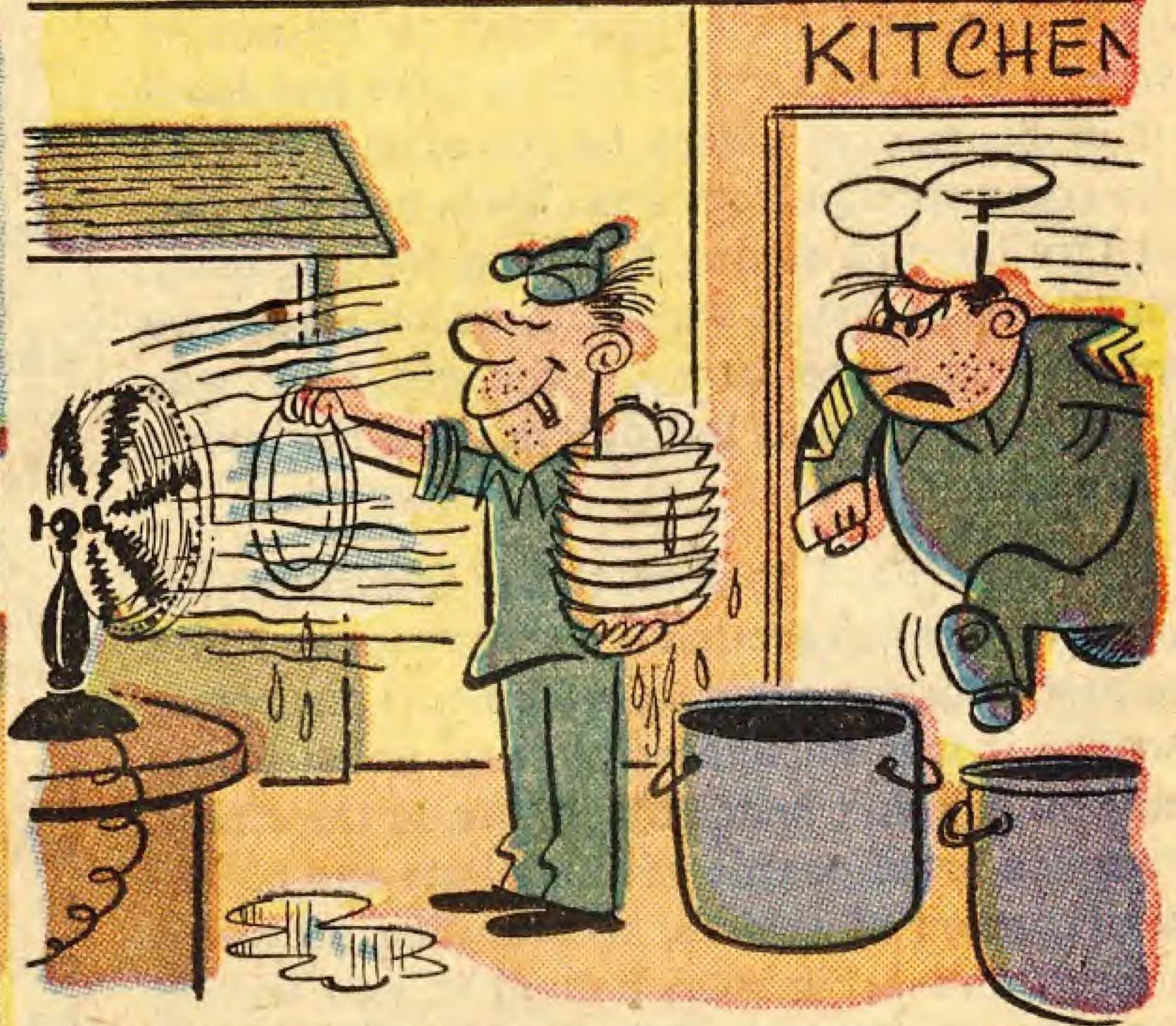
JEST in FUN



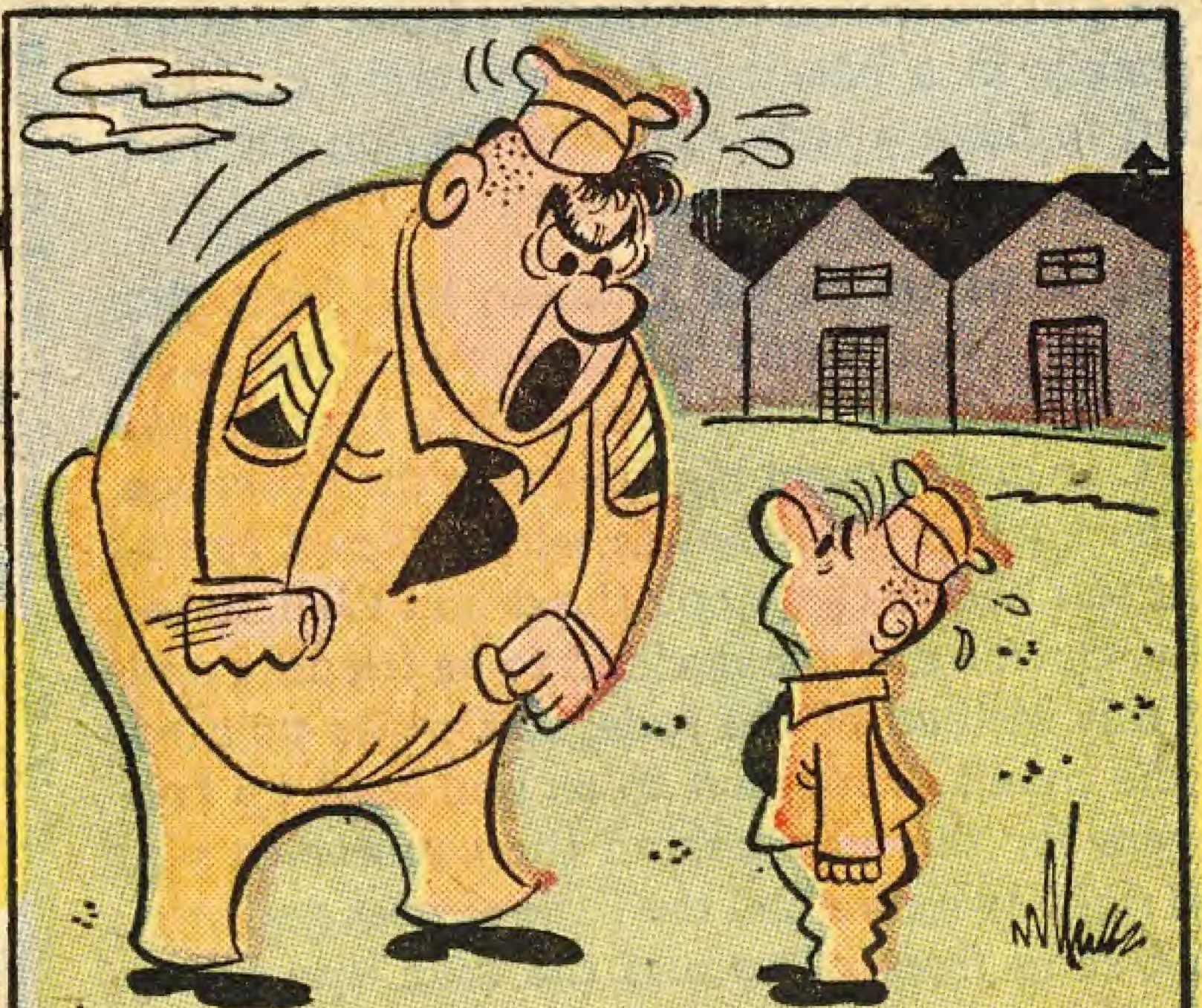
VIC
MARTIN



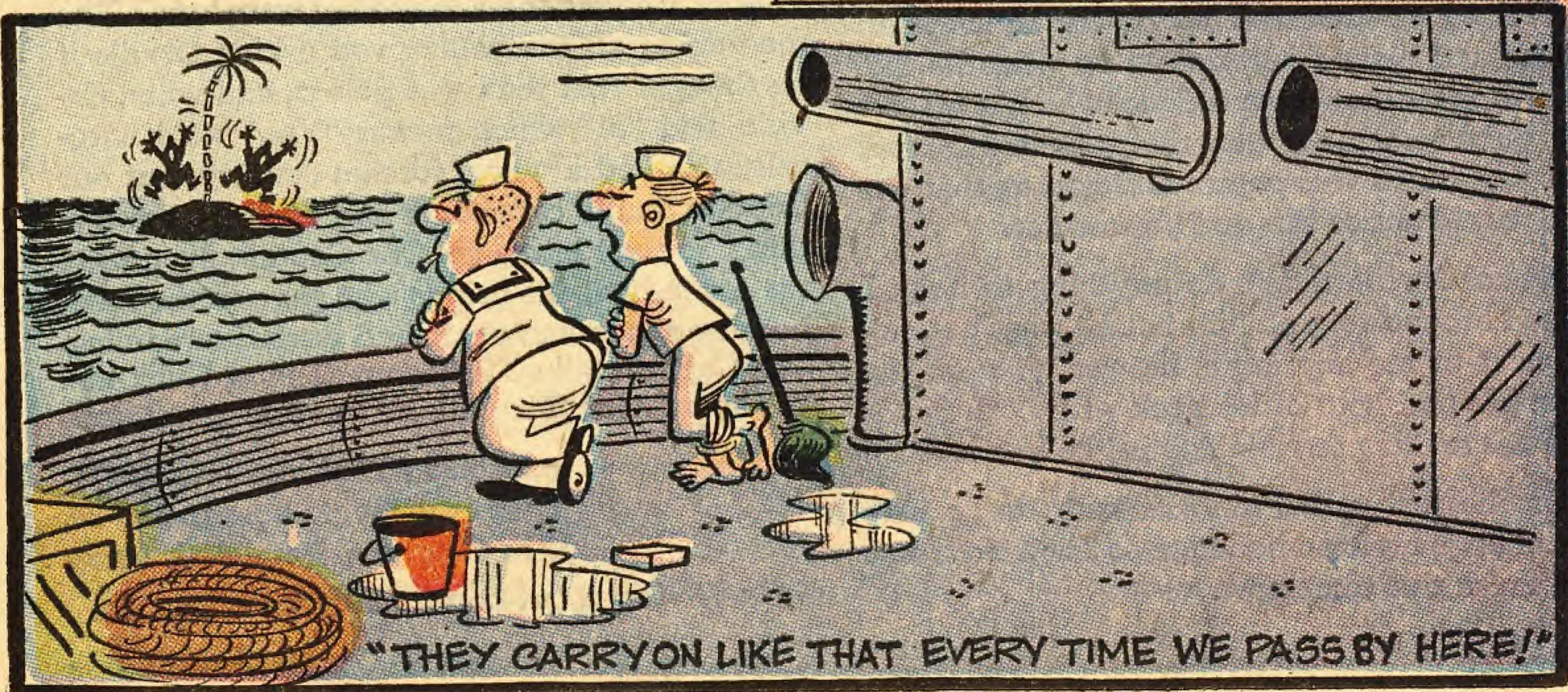
"DO YOU HAVE ANY THAT EXPLODE?
MY SERGEANT'S ALWAYS BORED!"



VIC
MARTIN



"I THINK YOU'RE JUST AGREEING
WITH ME SO YOU WON'T HAVE TO ARGUE!"



"THEY CARRY ON LIKE THAT EVERY TIME WE PASS BY HERE!"

GI Joe

It's All Finished Now

"THIS ISN'T GOING TO BE AN EASY STORY TO TELL... IS IT **EVER** EASY TO LOOK AT THE BROKEN BITS AND PIECES OF YOUR HEART AS IF THEY WERE NO MORE THAN JAGGED SECTIONS OF A JIG-SAW PUZZLE, AND KNOW THAT THE HAND TO SWEEP THOSE PIECES FOREVER ASIDE WITH A SINGLE, TERRIBLE BLOW, MUST BE YOUR OWN? BUT THAT'S THE WAY IT WAS... THE WAY I KNEW IT HAD TO BE! IT WAS SIMPLY A QUESTION OF HOW SIMPLY—HOW LEAST PAINFULLY—I COULD GET IT OVER WITH AND DONE! WITHOUT KNOWING IT, MY OWN MOTHER GAVE ME THE ANSWER, THE NIGHT THE TELEPHONE RANG, AND THEN SHE WAS CALLING TO ME, UPSTAIRS..."



"FOR LONG, DREADFUL MINUTES I STOOD AS IF FROZEN IN MY ROOM ... FINALLY FINDING ENOUGH STRENGTH TO ANSWER..."

"THE TELEPHONE WAS JUST A BLACK AND HIDEOUS SHAPE LYING ON THE HALL TABLE AS I FORCED MYSELF TO GO DOWNSTAIRS. IN ANOTHER MINUTE, IT WAS TO BE THE MEANS OF ENDING EVERYTHING. I PICKED IT UP..."

...I'M NEVER GOING TO SEE YOU AGAIN, JOE! NOT **EVER**! I DON'T WANT YOU TO WRITE TO ME ANY MORE, OR TRY TO PHONE OR—OR **ANYTHING**! I'M SORRY, JOE... BUT THIS IS **GOOD-BYE**!



HELLO, JOE...? NO, DON'T SAY ANYTHING—PLEASE! I HAVE SOMETHING TO TELL YOU, JOE! I—I HAVE TO SAY IT... AND THEN I'M GOING TO HANG UP...

CLICK!
SUSIE! WHAT ARE YOU SAYIN'? IS THIS SOME KIND OF CRAZY JOKE OR--

"AS I STARED AT THE PHONE, WONDERING IF IT HAD REALLY HAPPENED... WONDERING IF IT COULD HAVE BEEN MY VOICE SAYING THOSE THINGS TO JOE..."

"I COULDN'T ANSWER. NUMBLY, I JUST NODDED MY HEAD... THEN I WAS CRYING WILDLY, WITH MOM TRYING HER BEST TO COMFORT ME..."



SUSIE! I CAN'T BELIEVE MY OWN EARS! DID YOU TELL JOE YOU WEREN'T EVER GOING TO SEE HIM AGAIN?



BUT WHY, SUSIE—WHY? I CAN'T UNDERSTAND YOUR DOING SUCH A THING! JOE BURCH IS A FINE BOY! HE THINKS EVERYTHING IN THE WORLD OF YOU! HOW COULD YOU EVER--

SUSIE, HAVE YOU LOST YOUR SENSES? WHAT'S GOT INTO YOU, ANYWAY?

"BUT HOW COULD I EVER TELL THEM? HOW COULD I HOPE TO MAKE THEM UNDERSTAND? HARRIET SAID IT WOULD BE LIKE THIS! SHE WARNED ME TO EXPECT IT! SHE'D EVEN TOLD ME WHAT TO DO... AND WHAT TO SAY..."

I CAN'T TALK ABOUT IT NOW! I OWE YOU AN EXPLANATION AND I'LL GIVE IT TO YOU, BUT I'VE GOT TO HAVE TIME TO THINK!

YOU'VE SIMPLY GOT TO REMEMBER I'M OLD ENOUGH TO MAKE MY OWN DECISIONS!

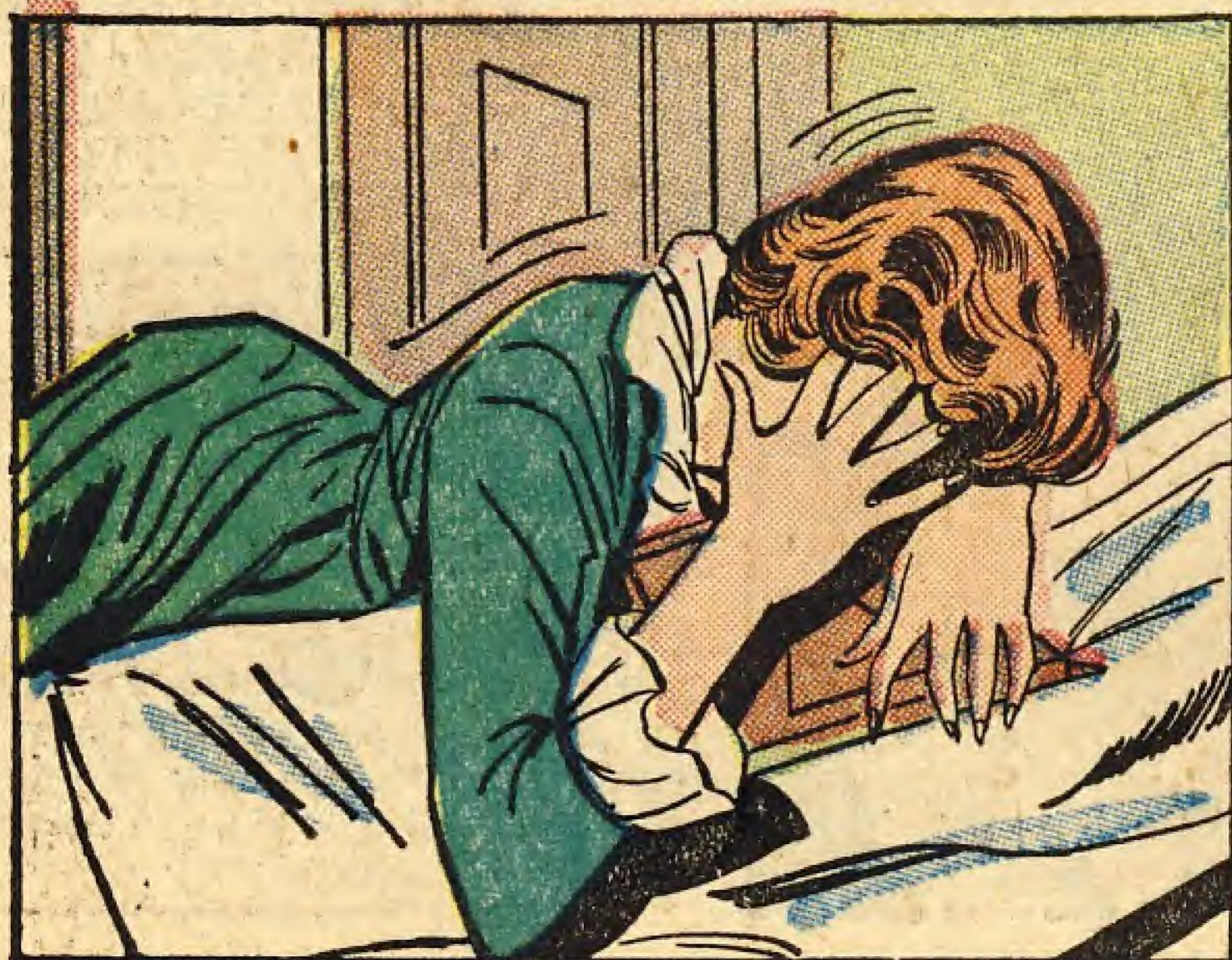


"UP IN MY ROOM, ALL THE HURT AND SHOCK AND BEWILDERMENT IN JOE'S VOICE SEEMED TO SHRIEK AT ME FROM HIS PICTURE..."



"... BUT I MUSTN'T LET MYSELF LISTEN! IT WAS FINISHED NOW... THE MOMENT I'D DREAMED HAD COME AND GONE. I MUSTN'T THINK ABOUT THAT PART OF IT ANY MORE! I MUST ONLY REMEMBER WHY... THE REASON THERE WASN'T ANY FUTURE FOR JOE BURCH AND ME!"

"I DIDN'T BELIEVE HARRIET LOGAN THE NIGHT SHE FIRST TOLD ME, A FEW WEEKS AGO! I REMEMBER LOOKING AT HER AS IF SHE'D GONE STARK STARING MAD..."



SUSIE... STANLEY AND I HAVE DECIDED YOU JUST CAN'T GO ALONG THIS WAY ANY MORE! SOMEBODY'S GOT TO TELL YOU, AND I GUESS IT'LL HAVE TO BE ME! YOU'VE GOT TO BREAK OFF THIS SILLY ATTACHMENT YOU HAVE FOR JOE!

HARRIET! ISN'T THAT BEING RATHER ROUGH ON SUSIE?

DON'T BE CHILDISH, STANLEY! WHEN SOMETHING HAS TO BE DONE, IT'S GOT TO BE FACED! THIS IS NO TIME FOR CUTTING CORNERS!



Y-YOU MEAN YOU'RE NOT **JOKING**, HARRIET? YOU **MEANT** WHAT YOU SAID ABOUT BREAKING OFF WITH JOE?

I NEVER MEANT ANYTHING MORE IN MY LIFE! NOW, LOOK, SUSIE... **WE'RE** YOUR **FRIENDS**, OR I WOULDN'T EVEN BOTHER TRYING TO HELP, BUT YOU'VE GOT TO REALIZE ...



...THAT JOE BURCH HAS ABSOLUTELY **NOTHING** TO OFFER YOU IN THE WAY OF SECURITY OR POSITION IN THIS TOWN! WHAT'S HE GOING TO **DO** AFTER HE GETS OUT OF THE ARMY? HE HAS NO PROFESSION...NO **CAREER**...



"HARRIET LOGAN TALKED ON AND ON, EACH OF HER WORDS LIKE SEPARATE LITTLE KNIVES STABBING AT MY HEART..."

WHAT WILL HE **DO**? TAKE A JOB IN SOME FILLING STATION? WHAT KIND OF LIFE WOULD THAT BE FOR **YOU**? DO YOU THINK THE **COUNTRY CLUB** WOULD ACCEPT YOU? DO YOU THINK THE PEOPLE WHO **COUNT** IN THIS TOWN WILL INVITE YOU TO THEIR HOMES?

JOE BURCH COMES FROM A NICE ENOUGH FAMILY, HARRIET...



DON'T BE RIDICULOUS! THAT HAS ABSOLUTELY NOTHING TO DO WITH IT! IT'S WHAT HE CAN DO FOR **SUSIE** THAT MATTERS... AND THE ANSWER TO THAT IS **NOTHING**!



JOE'S IN **LOVE** WITH ME, HARRIET! I-I'M HIS **GIRL**!

NOBODY IN THIS WORLD **BELONGS** TO ANYONE ELSE, AND THE SOONER YOU REALIZE THAT, SUSIE, THE BETTER! YOU'VE BEEN LIVING IN A PERFECTLY **ABSURD** IVORY TOWER EVER SINCE JOE WENT AWAY, AND IT SIMPLY **CAN'T GO ON**!



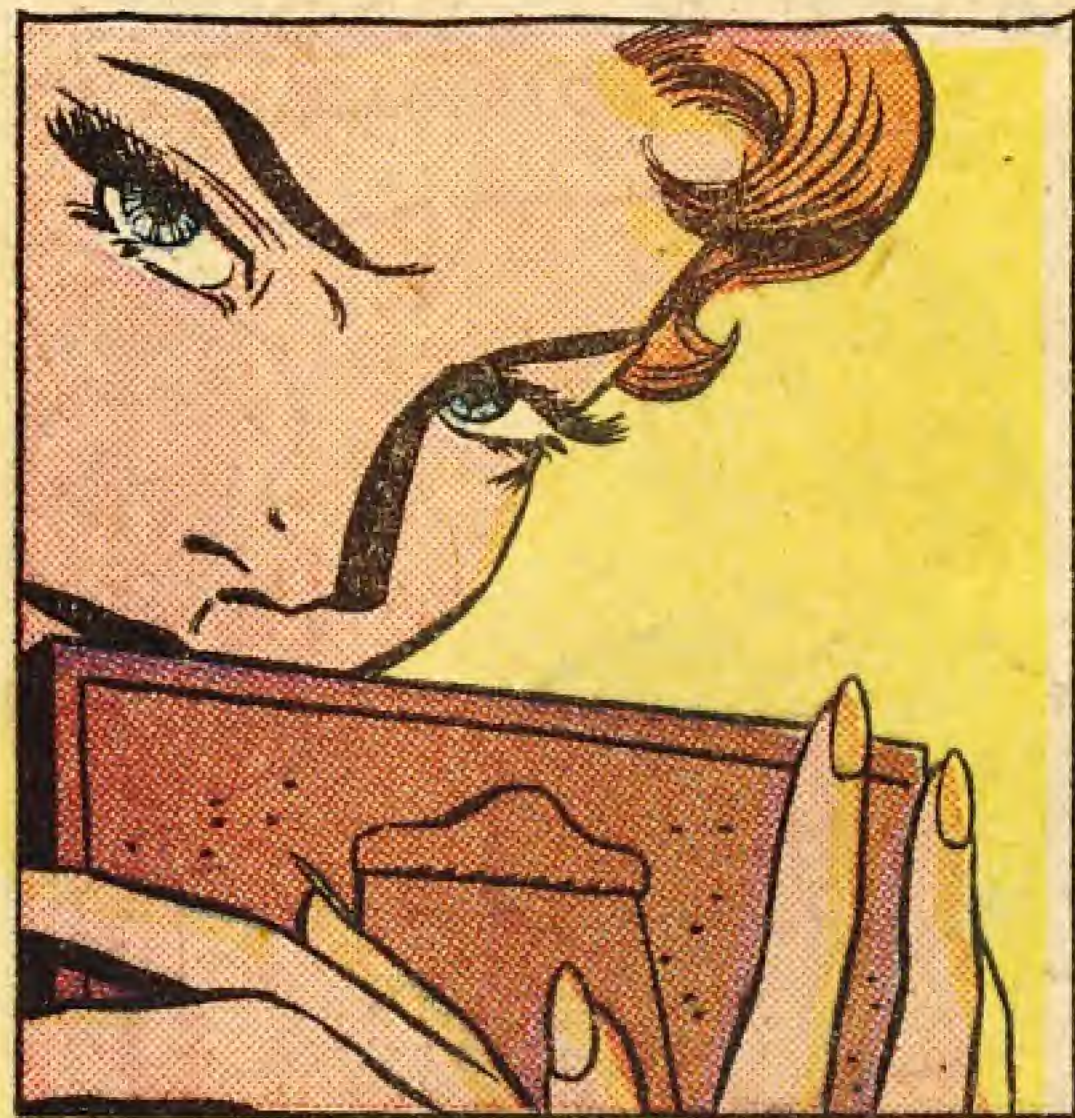
NOW, I'VE ASKED BEN ROGERS TO STOP IN TONIGHT...HE'S GOING TO TAKE YOU ON TO THE CLUB! YOU'VE GOT TO START THINKING ABOUT **YOUR-SELF**, SUSIE!

THERE'S A FINE FUTURE AHEAD FOR YOU, AND STANLEY AND I ARE JUST NOT GOING TO LET YOU **THROW IT AWAY**!



"BEN ROGERS! OH, I KNEW WHO BEN WAS, ALL RIGHT! EVERYBODY IN TOWN EITHER KNEW BEN-OR ENVIED HIM. RICH, GOOD-LOOKING, DEVIL-MAY-CARE ... BUT IT WAS JOE'S BLUE EYES I KEPT SEEING AS I LISTENED TO HARRIET... AND THEY WERE SLOWLY FILLING UP WITH PAIN."

"THE MEMORY OF THAT NIGHT FLOODED OVER ME AGAIN LIKE A GREAT SICKENING WAVE. I DIDN'T DARE TURN JOE'S PICTURE OVER HIS EYES WERE FILLED WITH PAIN NOW... I'D SEEN TO THAT! AND BEN ROGERS WAS CALLING FOR ME IN JUST A LITTLE WHILE..."



"YES, I'D BEEN SEEING QUITE A LOT OF BEN, AND IT WOULDN'T BE THE TRUTH TO SAY I WASN'T FLATTERED BY ALL HIS ATTENTIONS. OTHER GIRLS TOLD ME HOW LUCKY I WAS... AND I COULD ALWAYS SEE THE LITTLE SPARKS OF JEALOUSY THAT FLICKERED AMONG THEIR WORDS. THAT FIRST NIGHT WHEN BEN HAD TAKEN ME TO THE COUNTRY CLUB..."

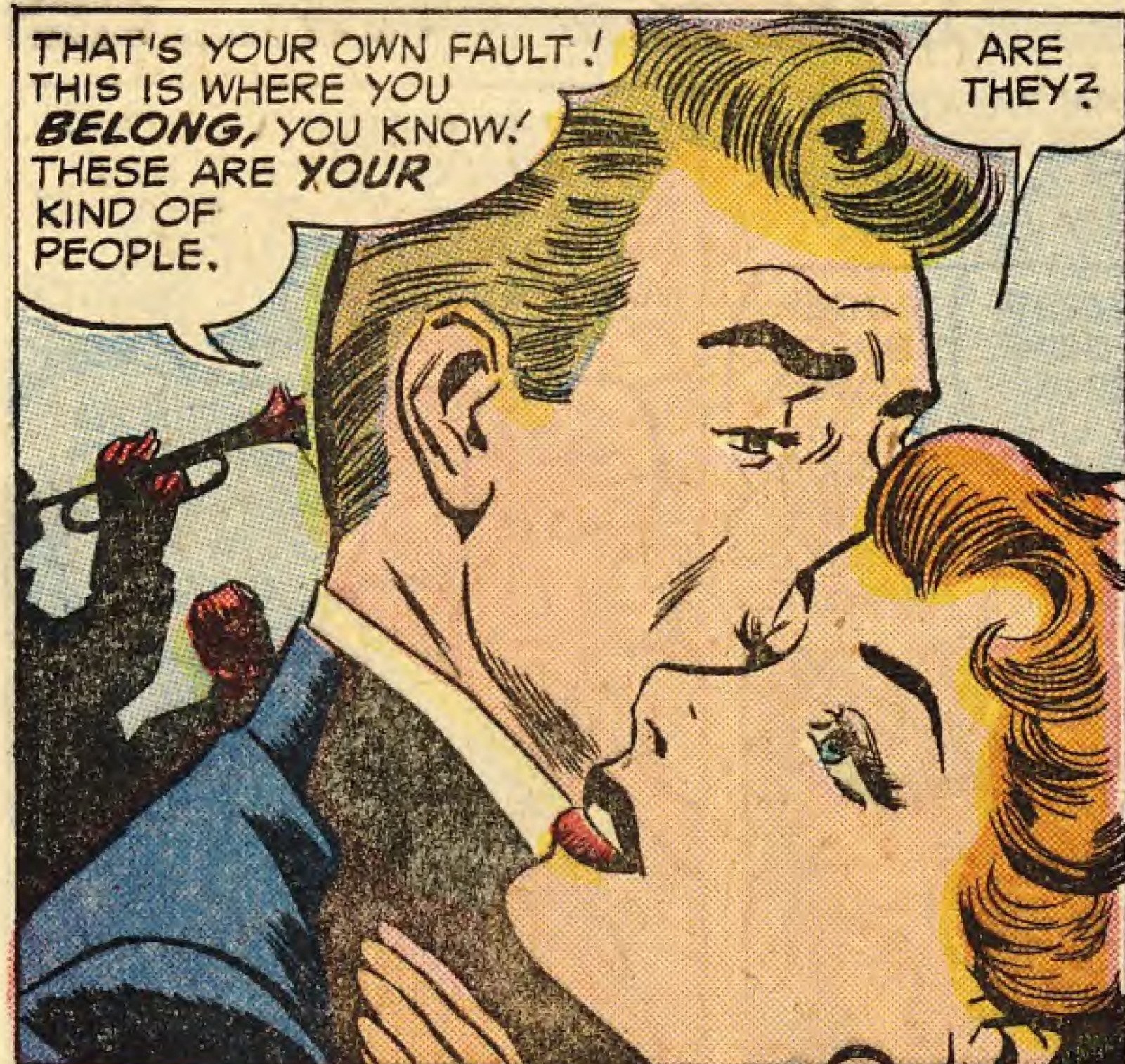
HARRIET'S RIGHT, SUSIE! WHY **HAVE** YOU BEEN HIDING YOURSELF AWAY ALL THIS TIME?

I HAVEN'T BEEN HIDING. I-I JUST DON'T KNOW MANY PEOPLE WHO COME HERE.



THAT'S YOUR OWN FAULT! THIS IS WHERE YOU **BELONG**, YOU KNOW! THESE ARE **YOUR** KIND OF PEOPLE.

ARE THEY?



YOU'RE A FUNNY GIRL! SURELY YOU'RE NOT **SERIOUS** ABOUT WAITING FOR THAT SOLDIER TO COME HOME? LIFE GOES **ON**, SUSIE! YOU CAN'T JUST LET IT PASS YOU BY!



WHY, LOOK AT THE LOGANS! HARRIET AND STANLEY ARE TWO OF THE MOST RESPECTED PEOPLE IN TOWN... BUT TAKE MY WORD FOR IT, A LOT OF THAT'S BEEN HARRIET'S DOING! WITHOUT **HER**, STANLEY WOULDN'T BE HALF THE SUCCESSFUL MAN HE IS!

I DON'T SEE WHAT THAT HAS TO DO WITH ME!



DON'T YOU, SUSIE? WELL, IF NOT — CAN YOU SEE THAT IT MIGHT VERY POSSIBLY HAVE SOME-THING TO DO WITH **ME**?



"YES, I KNEW **NOW** HOW MUCH IT HAD TO DO WITH BEN! THE LAST FEW WEEKS HAD BEEN A BLUR OF GAIETY... BEN ROGERS' SPECIAL KIND OF GAIETY. DANCING AT THE CLUB... LONG RIDES IN HIS SLEEK CONVERTIBLE..."



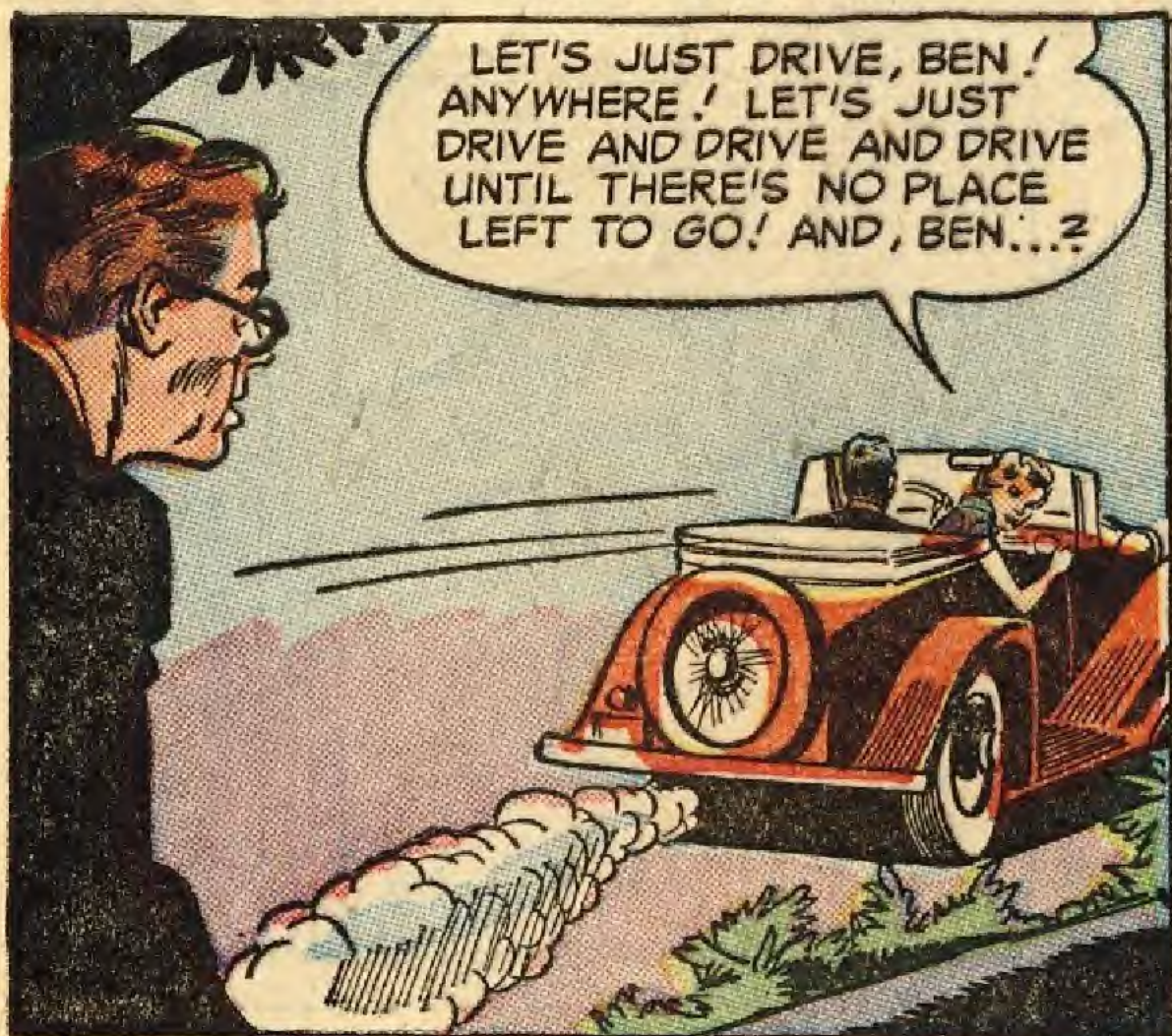
"...AND ANY MINUTE NOW, I'D HEAR THE DOORBELL RING DOWNSTAIRS, AND IT WOULD BE BEN AGAIN. BEN **ONLY** NOW... BECAUSE TONIGHT I'D TELL HIM WHAT I'D DONE TO JOE!"

I HAVEN'T PUT MY FOOT DOWN ABOUT YOUR SEEING SO MUCH OF THIS BEN ROGERS, BECAUSE I KNEW JOE WOULD UNDERSTAND! HE NEVER **EXPECTED** YOU TO MAKE A **RECLUSE** OUT OF YOURSELF WHILE HE'S AWAY, BUT--



MOM, I JUST CAN'T TALK ABOUT IT NOW! I **CAN'T**! THIS IS SOMETHING I HAVE TO DECIDE FOR MYSELF! IT'S **MY** LIFE I HAVE TO THINK ABOUT! IT'S **MY** LIFE I HAVE TO LIVE!

"I DIDN'T EVEN STOP TO SAY GOOD NIGHT TO DAD! I JUST RAN OUT TO BEN. I HAD TO HAVE THE PROTECTION OF BEING WITH HIM..."



LET'S JUST DRIVE, BEN! ANYWHERE! LET'S JUST DRIVE AND DRIVE AND DRIVE UNTIL THERE'S NO PLACE LEFT TO GO! AND, BEN...?

"AS I STARTED TO PUT A VIVID AND DEFIANT RED ON MY LIPS..."



SUSIE, I'M NOT WAITING **ANY LONGER** FOR YOU TO TELL ME WHAT THIS FOOLISHNESS IS ALL ABOUT! I WANT TO TALK TO YOU—**RIGHT NOW!**

"IT WAS HARD TO BELIEVE THAT THE VOICE I HEARD SAYING THOSE THINGS WAS MY OWN! I HADN'T EVER TALKED LIKE THAT TO MOM BEFORE IN MY LIFE! WE'D ALWAYS BEEN SO **CLOSE!** BUT THEN I HEARD BEN'S CAR COMING TO A STOP OUTSIDE..."



TOMORROW, MOM... WE'LL TALK ABOUT IT TOMORROW! I MUSTN'T KEEP BEN WAITING NOW...

...HOLD ME CLOSE TO YOU, WILL YOU? IT'S ALL OVER BETWEEN ME AND JOE! I TOLD HIM TONIGHT WHEN HE CALLED UP FROM CAMP! I FEEL **AWFUL!** JUST **AWFUL!** PLEASE HOLD ME...

SUSIE, HERE'S SOMETHING ELSE YOU'VE GOT TO LEARN. MAKING DIFFICULT DECISIONS IS PART OF BECOMING A WOMAN! WHEN YOU'RE MRS. BENJAMIN ROGERS, THERE'LL BE **OTHER** DECISIONS... AND I WON'T ALWAYS BE THERE TO HELP YOU MAKE THEM. YOU'LL HAVE TO TAKE ON HEAVY RESPONSIBILITIES, SUSIE. YOU'LL HAVE TO...



"BEN KEPT ON TALKING AS WE ROARED OFF INTO THE NIGHT, MOST OF WHAT HE WAS SAYING LOST ON THE WIND. SUDDENLY, I WAS BEGINNING TO FEEL ALMOST AS LOST!"

"I DON'T KNOW HOW LONG WE DROVE...OR WHERE. I DON'T EVEN REMEMBER THE CAR COMING TO A STOP, OR BEN LIGHTING HIS PIPE, THE SMOKE LYING THICKLY ON THE NIGHT AIR..."

BEN... WHAT DID YOU MEAN WHEN YOU SAID YOU WOULDN'T ALWAYS BE THERE, AFTER WE'RE MARRIED?

WHY, EXACTLY THAT, OF COURSE! THE ROGERS' TRADITION IS AN IMPORTANT ONE! YOU'VE SEEN HOW HARRIET LOGAN TAKES CHARGE OF EVERYTHING FOR STANLEY! WELL, THAT'S WHAT I'LL EXPECT YOU TO DO FOR ME!

LOOK, SUSIE... YOU'RE NOT MARRYING SOME NAIVE SOLDIER JUST BACK FROM THE ARMY! I'M GIVING YOU AN ESTABLISHED POSITION IN THIS TOWN... AND IT CAN'T BE MAINTAINED BY GIVING WAY TO SCHOOLGIRL EMOTIONS! HARRIET'S PROMISED TO HELP ALL SHE CAN, BUT--

BEN — YOU'RE RIGHT, YOU KNOW!



"AND FOR THE FIRST TIME REALLY, I KNEW HOW RIGHT HE WAS! FOR THE FIRST TIME IN SUCH A LONG TIME, I KNEW THE CLEAR AND SIMPLE ANSWER TO EVERYTHING!"

I'M NOT MARRYING A NAIVE SOLDIER JUST BACK FROM THE ARMY...!

... BUT IF HE'LL HAVE ME WHEN HE COMES HOME -- I'LL BE MARRYING A MAN! JOE WILL HELP ME DECIDE THINGS... AND THE FIRST THING WE'LL DECIDE IS TO LIVE FOR EACH -- NOT FOR WHAT OTHER PEOPLE THINK OF US! NOW, BEN — PLEASE TAKE ME HOME!

"I DIDN'T CALL JOE... THE TELEPHONE WAS TOO COLD, TOO IMPERSONAL FOR WHAT I HAD TO SAY. BEFORE DAWN THE NEXT MORNING, I WAS ON THE BUS, AND AFTER A LONG RIDE, AT CAMP HUMBOLDT..."



NO, HE'S NOT EXPECTING ME... BUT IT'S TERRIBLY IMPORTANT!

IF YOU'LL JUST MAKE YOURSELF COMFORTABLE, MISS EVANS, I'LL SEE IF I CAN HAVE HIM LOCATED...



"I DON'T KNOW WHO FINALLY FOUND JOE..."

"I ONLY KNOW THAT BEFORE TOO LONG..."



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"... I SAW THE PAIN FOREVER DRIVEN FROM JOE'S EYES!"

The End



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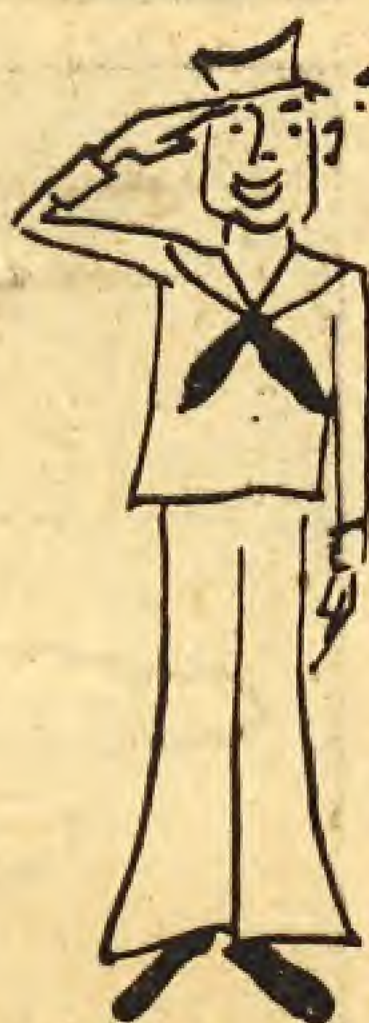
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- **BREAKING THROUGH THE "WATER BARRIER"**—America's best-known racing writer, Hank Bowman, describes the perils of high speeds afloat.
- **SHOULD YOUR FIRST BOAT BE POWER OR SAIL?**—Two top boating writers defend their favorite craft in a hot debate.
- **OUTBOARDS UNLIMITED**—There's no limit to the fun outboarding offers. Here's how to enjoy it more fully!
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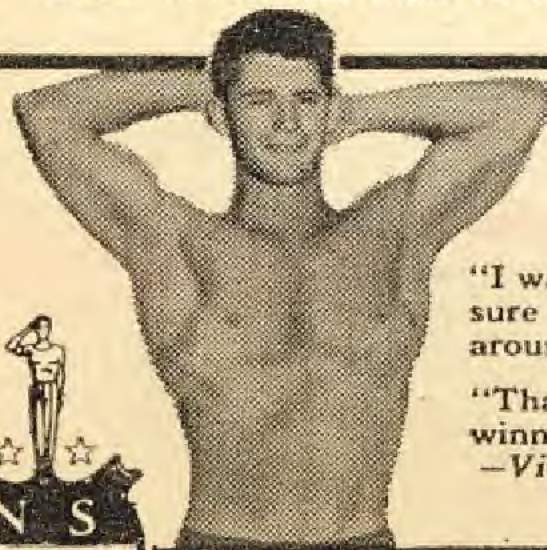
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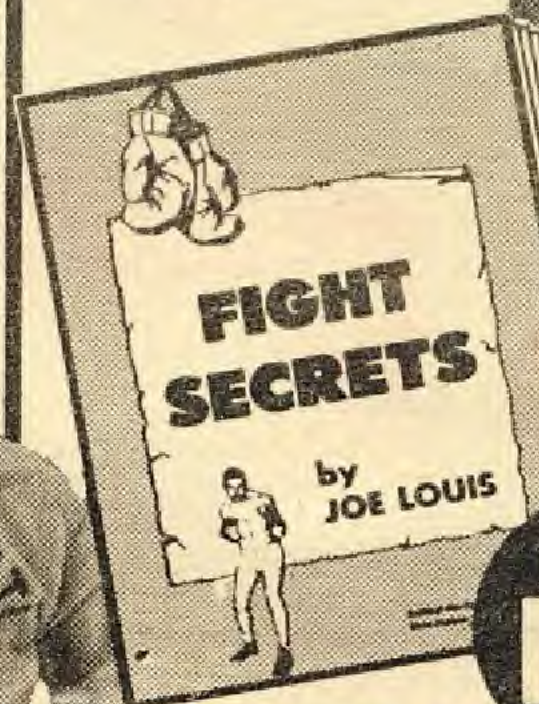
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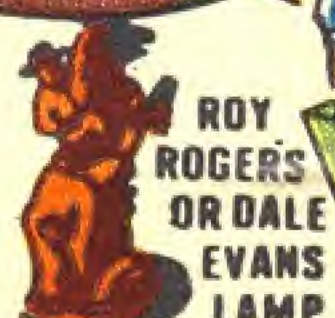
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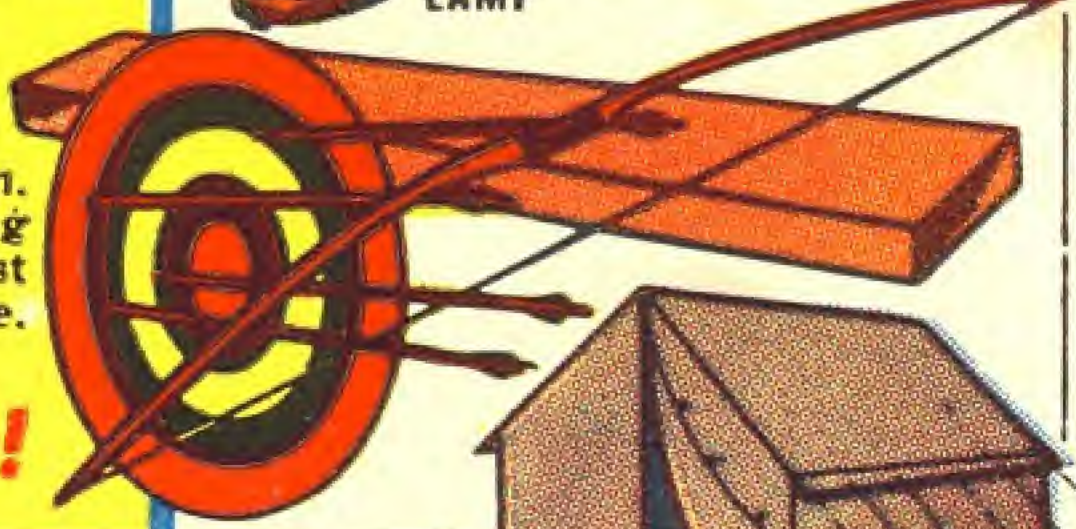
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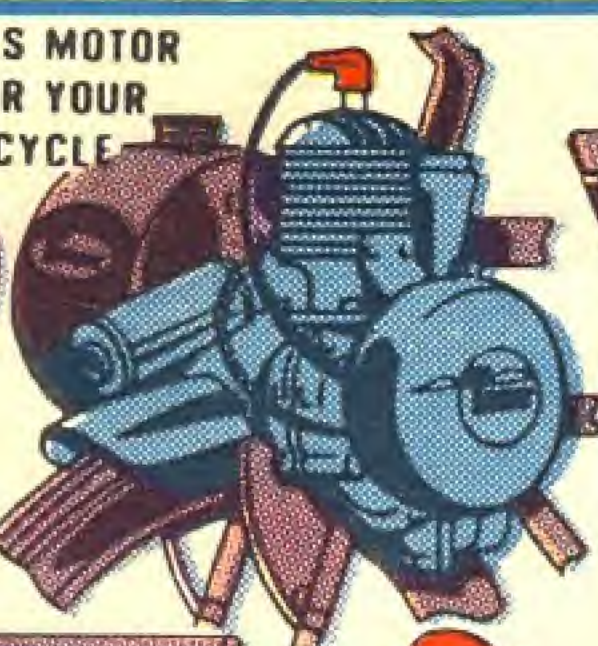
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